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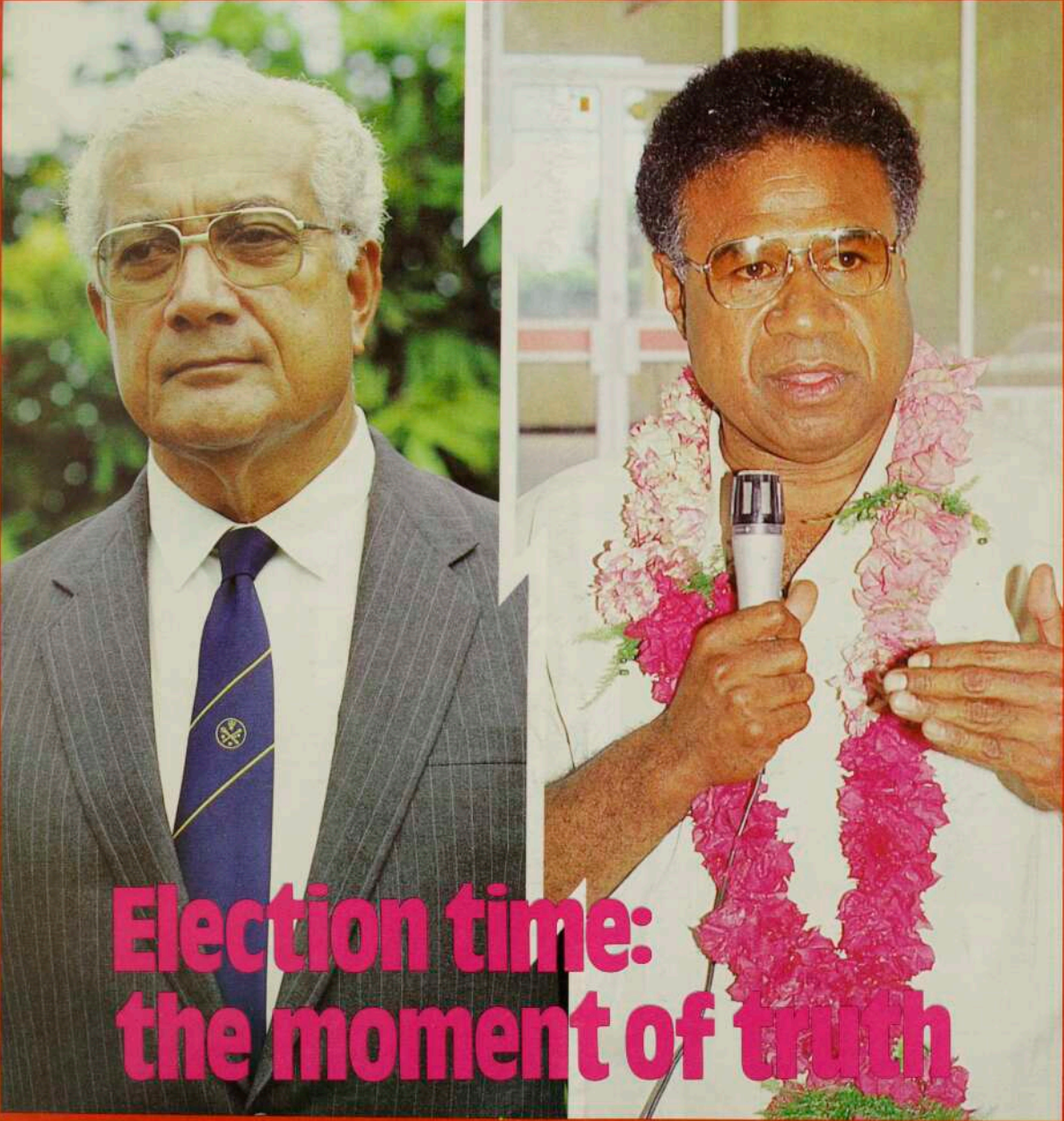
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PACIFIC ISLANDS

M O N T H L Y

FEBRUARY, 1987



**Election time:
the moment of truth**



Progress with Distinction.

Compact but big.

It used to be simple. In order to gain the maximum amount of interior space, cars necessarily had to have big bodies. But then people also wanted compact family cars that were easier to handle and performed better. It came down to making a hard choice. Till Honda decided to challenge this state of affairs. Honda aimed to give people a lot of room in a small car that was easy to handle. So from the very start, Honda designed the Civic Sedan to realize an automotive goal that was considered virtually impossible—going for a compact body that would permit the maximum possible interior space to be realized.

And that's where Honda's MM philosophy makes the difference. It advocates minimum space for mechanisms and maximum space for utility. Honda's no-compromise approach combines superior performance with mechanical parts designed for compactness and high-density integration. Take the 12-valve engine for instance. Engineered for high power, it's also compact,

durable, and economical. How about the high-performance suspension? Light and compact, it takes up minimal space, allowing the car to have a lower, sleeker hood. Honda made the most effective use of available space wherever possible, leaving a generous interior space to ensure passenger comfort. That means plush, roomy seating for four adults with ample legroom for all. Take a look at the trunk. Deep and wide, it opens up right from the bumper line to take all the effort out of loading. Even the rear seatback folds down for extra loading convenience. The end result is a deceptively orthodox sedan with a significantly higher level of driving enjoyment.

Compact but big. A paradox Honda challenged and solved. The Honda way.



Equipment may vary in some countries.



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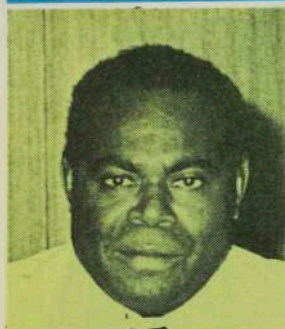
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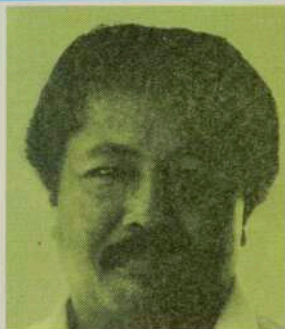
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M O N T H L Y



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High Chief Gibbons

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IN THIS ISSUE

BATTLE LINES ARE DRAWN: Fiji prime minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara has thrown down the election gauntlet in what promises to be his stiffest electoral test in the 16 years that he has led the country. A coalition of the "old" opposition National Federation Party and the new Labour Party will give Ratu Mara's Alliance Party a tough time at the polls. We profile the election with an overview of the issues, the personalities and the previous voting patterns. **18**

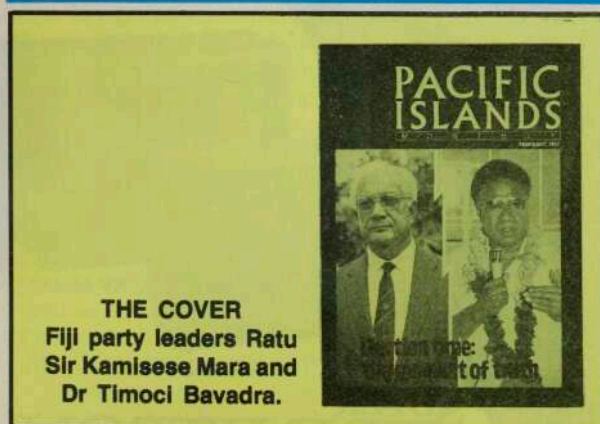
JAPAN'S PACIFIC INITIATIVE: Faced with increased Soviet commercial and diplomatic activity in the Pacific, Japan proposes joint action to maintain the western influence. It could mean a whole new program of aid and trade for the island countries. **25**

THE POLITICS OF DISSENT: France, the UN and the New Caledonia independence movement seem set on a collision course. France's refusal to co-operate with the Committee of 24 and the FLNKS refusal to negotiate with Mr Pons have set the scene for confrontation. Meanwhile, France is determined to proceed with arrangements for this year's referendum on the territory's status — with or without UN approval. **12**

FUNDS FROM FISH: The island countries' pay out from the US tuna deal may be better than at first expected — for some. Our Washington correspondent examines the agreement and also profiles the "other end" of the tuna industry — the consumer market in the United States. He finds that the species is far more migratory after it leaves the ocean than it ever has been while in the water. **27**

IT'S PARTY TIME: Election year in Vanuatu has seen the birth of a clutch of new parties all hoping to topple the Vanua'aku Pati led by Fr Walter Lini. We take a look at the new hopefuls and their policies and find that the VP is probably still the best organised political unit in the country — so far. **10**

NOBLES UNDER FIRE: Allegations of mis-spending by Tongan MPs have rocked the country and may even have eroded the traditional unquestioning acceptance of authority in the kingdom. We background the issues and the personalities with interviews with churchmen and a farmer. The Privy Council may eventually decide the issue which is before the court. **9**



THE COVER
Fiji party leaders Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara and Dr Timoci Bavadra.

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PIM OPINION

The chance for Japan

The Japanese initiative is logical and welcome. The Tokyo planners may have taken their time over it as a result of their own internal politicking, but they have now recognised the importance of the South Pacific islands region.

It's something the Japanese private sector has recognised for some time. For example, Japan has been at the forefront of the development of the tuna fishing industry over the past decade. Indeed, while the American Tunaboat Association was squealing Japan was dealing. The Japanese tuna agreements — first with Papua New Guinea and later with others — became a benchmark that the Americans, until very recently, couldn't meet.

Japan is a major exporter of cars and other manufactures to the region and is a major importer of raw materials.

The foreign policy implications that flow from all that are now, at last, being fully examined and acted upon.

And as Australia's capacity to provide aid declines, Japan's increases. Also, Japan is second only to the United States in its abhorrence of Soviet influence in its immediate environs. This, plus a Japanese perception that the "New Zealand disease" might be catching have combined to prompt a major Japanese initiative.

From a purely pragmatic viewpoint, the reasons are less important than the effects, however. Japan has much to offer in terms of technology, training and expertise and, it seems, these will soon be available in more generous quantities than ever before.

And Japan has chosen its time well. The economies of

the larger island nations are on the up. PNG, in particular, is set for a very real resources boom with emerging discoveries of gold, oil and gas. Fiji looks ever more assured of stable growth with developments in manufacturing, mining, agriculture and forestry. The smaller island nations such as Tonga and the Cook Islands are overcoming the problems of size and are trading their way to their rightful places in the world. The atoll states face difficulties peculiar to themselves and Japan is already sympathetic to their problems.

But these nations do not want to be forever Japan's quarries and gardens. Assistance with some form of "downstream" value added activity is essential.

Now it may be that even the larger island states are too small for viable large scale manufacturing enterprises to be established. Experience certainly points in this direction.

Nevertheless there are opportunities in specialised areas of activity that could and should be developed. And Japan is in a unique position to assist.

But, as always, there are problems. Japan, it seems, wants to take advantage of Australia's long experience of providing aid in the South Pacific. Australia, on the other hand, has its own aim of gaining greater access to Japan's huge domestic market.

Japan won't swap access to Australia's experience for Australian market penetration at home. Australia has, therefore, more or less told Japan to go it alone in the islands.

That's needn't — and probably won't — deter the island leaders from welcoming an increased Japanese aid effort.



pacific report

CYCLONE DEVASTATES COOK ISLANDS.

Cyclone Sally, which passed directly over the Cook Islands centre of Rarotonga caused A\$35 million in damage. The island of Aitutaki lost all of its only cash crop — bananas — while main harbour installations in Rarotonga were nearly totally destroyed and the main commercial and administrative area flooded. However, stand by generators soon had the tourism industry back in action. Prime Minister Sir Tom Davis and resort representatives appealed to tourists not to cancel bookings. Offers of aid came from New Zealand, Australia, France, UK and the United States. French secretary of state, Mr Gaston Flosse was the first overseas representative to arrive and promised French aid for reconstruction. France and Britain also offered aid to Fiji where Cyclone Raja caused extensive damage to crops and buildings.

COURT RULES IN FAVOUR OF TV.

Papua New Guinea's Supreme Court has ruled that the law passed last year banning broadcast television until next January was unconstitutional. The five judges were unanimous that the Television (Prohibition and Control) Act breached the freedom of speech provisions in the constitution. However by a three to two majority, the judges ruled that it was reasonably necessary to restrict television up to the end of this year, leaving the way clear for the government to re-introduce the Act in a constitutional manner.

ISLANDS GET AIDS WARNING

An expert on the fatal disease, AIDS, warned that the virus could decimate the populations of some island countries within 10 years. Ms Elizabeth Reid, an adviser to the Australian National Advisory Council on AIDS, said in Suva after a tour of the Pacific region that the small size of the island states coupled with a predicted increase in tourism was a major factor in the AIDS danger. She said other potential means of spreading the virus were through the return of migrants from countries where AIDS was already established. The traditional roles played by homosexuals in some island societies was also a possible means of spreading the virus. These factors, she said, were a greater threat to the region than the 1918 influenza epidemic that killed 20 per cent of Western Samoa's population.



Mr. Bole: Warned foreigners to stay out of domestic politics

EXPATS TOLD: KEEP OUT OF POLITICS

Fiji's education minister, Mr Felipe Bole, warned expatriates that they have no right to criticise the government or its policies. He issued the warning after criticism by USP professor, New Zealander Ron Crocombe, who had claimed that the government was delaying processing his application for a work permit renewal. Professor Crocombe, of the Pacific Island Studies department, has been a faculty member for 18 years. He had previously claimed that the Fiji government discriminated against other Pacific island nations in the employment of USP staff. Bole said Fiji citizens were entitled to criticise the government, but that the same right did not extend to foreigners.

FORESTRY PLANS WORTH MILLIONS

The government of Vanuatu has approved in principle the establishment of a large industrial forestry plantation on the northern island of Espiritu Santo. The approval follows studies by several governments and organisations including the Commonwealth Development Corporation, the Japanese Association for International Co-operation, the New Zealand government, the Asian Development Bank and Vanuatu's Forest Services Department. The government expects the project, if it proceeds, will have a significant impact on the island's

economy. The plantation is expected to cover about 6,000 hectares. Studies put the development cost of the project at about A\$12 million. The government said negotiations with potential aid donors would begin at once with the hope that work could begin this year. The plantation would then be in production by the year 2007. In Fiji, meanwhile, Forestry Development Services Ltd announced multi-million dollar plans for timber exports to Australia and Japan over the next five years. The company said it had reached agreement with Australian distributors for an annual sale of 24,000 cubic metres of planed and sawn pine worth about A\$20 million in the first three years. The company announced that it had also reached agreement for the marketing of woodchips through the Japanese trading house, C. Itoh and Co, with annual sales worth A\$7 million. Forestry Development Services — 50 per cent owned by the Fiji Pine Commission — is to be renamed Tropik Wood Industries Ltd.

A-G REPORT SLAMS CONTROL STANDARDS

The annual report of the auditor-general of Vanuatu has strongly criticised the standard of controls over public spending. Mr Joe Dwyer said the standard was rapidly dropping and his report said the administration of the country's budget was of particular concern. Books recording spending by government departments were often badly maintained, said the report, despite considerable training of the people involved. Officers responsible for departmental spending could not easily see the department's financial position because of the poorly kept books, the report said. It also said that if government departments had remained within their spending limits, a deficit of A\$1 million in 1985 could have been contained at A\$200,000.

FRANCE URGED TO WORK WITH UN

South Pacific countries expressed their hope that France would adopt a constructive attitude and work with the United Nations to resolve the future of New Caledonia after the UN had adopted a resolution re-inscribing the territory on the list of non-self governing entities. The minister representing the foreign minister in the Australian Senate, Senator Gareth Evans, said all Forum countries hoped France would work with the UN for the benefit of the people of New Caledonia. He said present French

policy did not adequately recognise the aspirations of the Kanak people. However, he added that France had an important part to play in the South Pacific and Australia wished to maintain friendship with France. Fiji's prime minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara also hoped France would co-operate with the UN and that peace would be maintained in New Caledonia. He expressed his appreciation for the wide support given to the Forum's initiative despite what he called resistance from France. New Solomon Islands prime minister, Mr Ezekiel Alebua, praised the Forum nations for steering the resolution through the General Assembly. He said it was a landmark achievement in South Pacific diplomacy and regional co-operation. But he warned Forum members not to reduce their efforts in pressing for New Caledonia's independence and in opposing the nuclear testing program at Moruroa. But France's minister for overseas departments and territories, Mr Bernard Pons, said France would ignore the UN resolution and would not allow UN observers or fact-finding missions to visit New Caledonia. France would also proceed with the July referendum on the territory's status without UN supervision.

AIRLINE CHIEF WANTS ONE AUTHORITY

Leading airline executive John Schaap, chief executive of Fiji national carrier Air Pacific, has called for the creation of a single authority to regulate civil aviation in the South Pacific. Schaap said there were five existing national systems — those of Britain, France, Australia, New Zealand and Fiji. He told a meeting of the 17-nation South Pacific Tourism Council in Suva that it was time to rationalise. Schaap also said there was a need to share aviation facilities in order to cut maintenance and spare parts costs and to interchange aircraft. He also criticised the fact that the region's nine airlines operate 14 types of aircraft — and some were unsuited to the individual airline's needs. He cited the example of Kiribati's Air Tuarua whose Boeing 727 had almost bankrupted the country. He said smaller aircraft would allow for increased passenger flights which would encourage tourism.

VANUATU TRIMS THE BUDGET

The Vanuatu parliament passed the government's budget estimates for this year which proposed spending cuts of about A\$2.5 million. Parliament approved a total budget of A\$26 million — 10 per cent down on last year. One area where the government plans to save money is in its vehicle fleet. This will be reduced from 47 cars to 10. Earlier, prime minister Fr Walter Lini accused the opposition of presenting a misleading view of the country's economic circumstances. He attacked opposition MPs in

parliament for calling the economic crisis "a catastrophe" and for claiming that the country was bankrupt. The remarks had been made by parliamentary opposition leader Mr Maxime Carlot in reply to the budget speech by finance minister Mr Kalpokor Kalsakau. Carlot had claimed that many of the country's problems stemmed from poor planning or from failure to implement plans. He also asked whether the government's non-aligned foreign policy was partly to blame for the poor economic situation. However, Lini denied the claims saying that other South Pacific countries were in similar difficulties.

RADIO SERVICE HAS POWER CUT

The Kiribati national broadcasting service had to switch to a standby generator when its mains power was cut off for non-payment of an electricity bill. The Public Utilities Board then told the station to stop using the generator as the board was the only body with the right to produce electricity. A Radio Kiribati spokesman said the station had an outstanding bill of A\$25,000 which it could not pay at once because the government had ceased to subsidise the station which was due to become fully commercial this year. He said the generator would continue to be used until the station was bought. A Radio Australia correspondent said some 15 organisations, including government ministries, could have their power cut for non-payment. It was also announced that Japan would provide Kiribati with A\$265,000 to buy rice and meet transport costs. The Japanese embassy in Suva said the grant would contribute to the stabilisation of the Kiribati economy. Japan provided similar grants in 1981 and 1983. It was also announced in Suva that Kiribati and Tuvalu had formally joined the list of UN least developed countries. A UNDP spokesman said this would mean the two countries would have access to additional UN funds and would assist them to find support from non-traditional aid donors.

KANAKS LAUNCH SYDNEY OFFICE

Mr Jacques Boengkih arrived in Australia in early December to run the Sydney office of the Kanak Association for Economic and Cultural Development (AKDEC). The principal objective of the office is to co-ordinate, monitor and evaluate projects involving training and economic development. AKDEC was formed by New Caledonia's FLNKS and Australia's trade union movement to promote regional development in the territory, particularly in the three regions — northern, central and Loyalty Islands — which are under FLNKS control. The association hopes to foster regional development through assistance pro-

jects from Australia, New Zealand and France, as well as furthering economic and cultural ties between the Kanak people and the people in the South Pacific. In Sydney Mr Boengkih will seek support and maintain contacts with non government organisations and seek the involvement of Australian business and farmers in economic and commercial development in the three New Caledonia regions. Visits to the territory for NGOs, businessmen, farmers etc will be organised along with seminars and short training sessions in Australia. Boengkih, 41, from Canala, has worked in Tahiti and Noumea for UTA and has 15 years experience in freight forwarding and customs work. *Helen Fraser.*

MAINLAND GROUP BUYS LES NOUVELLES

New Caledonia's only daily newspaper has been sold by proprietor Jean-Jacques Leyraud to France's Hersant group for a reported 500 million cfp (A\$6.3 million). The Hersant group includes the right wing Paris daily Le Figaro and the evening France Soir in a press empire which embraces regional and departmental newspapers throughout France. The group, which supports the Chirac party RPR, is reported to have bought Les Nouvelles partly to ensure editorial support for the anti-independence party RPCR. For while Les Nouvelles, established in 1976, is equally anti-independence and equally right wing, the paper's editor, Edouard Ventrillon, has often been critical of RPCR leader Jacques Lafleur and other personalities in the party. The new owners were due to bring in several editorial staff changes guaranteeing a favourable press for Lafleur and his followers. First casualties were likely to be senior reporter Roland Chartier (a member of the largest pro-independence party Union Caledonienne) and a handful of other reporters deemed too moderate on the independence issue. — *Helen Fraser.*

FRANCE SUPPORTS EMPLOYMENT PLAN

The French government and New Caledonia have adopted a series of new measures aimed at helping young people find first employment. The French government will pay basic wages for people between 16 and 26 for periods of 3 to 12 months to participate in work schemes with the aged or handicapped, maintenance of public buildings and parks etc, at municipal level. The territory will pay 6 months basic wages and social security costs for those under 26 seeking a first job on condition the employer undertakes to employ those concerned for a minimum of one year after the 6 month period is finished. The territory will also give first time temporary employment to youths at basic rates to complete works of public value. — *Helen Fraser.*



Garment maker's criticism was grossly unfair

Your November issue carried an article titled "Unkind Cut for Garment Makers." The article appears to have been based on views expressed by Mr David Einfield of Farah Manufacturing.

In giving vent to his frustration, Mr Einfield chose to criticise the Fiji government and to allege that no serious efforts, if any, had been made to address the problems of concern to him.

This is grossly unfair.

At various levels of government repeated efforts have been made and representations continue to be made with regard to the problems faced by Fiji's garment manufacturers.

More regrettably, Mr Einfield chose to indict individuals from whom he expected greater support — the very individuals who have been in the forefront of seeking improved conditions for our garment manufacturers.

These efforts are well known to the Fiji manufacturing industry and are much appreciated. It is therefore a matter of considerable regret that Mr Einfield chose to denigrate such efforts. His personal apology to us, naturally, will not reach as wide an audience as the original article.

In fairness to the Australian government, it should also be recorded that our representations have not fallen on deaf ears. The suggestion of indifference

on the part of Australia is unjustified.

We know full well the complexities involved in the area of access for garments and remain hopeful that the new textiles, clothing and footwear (TCF)

regime in 1988 will reveal concessions for the Forum island countries which reflect the spirit of Spartecca.

For the interim period too it is our expectation that the current difficulties will be alleviated.

Meanwhile, Fiji's representations will continue — even if Mr Einfield chooses to remain oblivious to them.

JAMES A. MARAJ,
Permanent Secretary for
Foreign Affairs, Suva.

The Russian bait has a double hook

Much has been said about foreign relations with some of our Pacific island neighbours such as Vanuatu and Kiribati.

The admission of countries such as Russia, Cuba and Libya to our neighbours may prompt one to ask: What is going on? Have our brothers forgotten the motherly care given them by their allies over the years?

Have they forgotten what is going on Afghanistan? Have they forgotten that when the Russians come fishing the bait has a double hook?

Russia isn't the only country interested in buying their fish.

There are more suitable and friendly potential trading partners.

We have seen that Kiribati's fishing agreement with Russia has already ended. This is a good example that should

guide us all in the future when making contact with foreign countries with a view to business.

We have also read recently that Russia claims some rights in the Pacific. This announcement was made well before another announcement of a missile test series in the region.

And where were the Russians in the Pacific during World War Two?

How can they claim rights when they did not defend Tarawa, Solomon Islands and other mini-states helped by the allies and, of course, the United States?

Even our small Fiji helped in this — but, again, where was Russia?

He was — and is — there, the red bear, watching from his northern Pacific coastline, just

waiting for the chance to cruise down and make love in the South Seas. But his hooks are still sharp and cunningly baited.

I beg my island brothers to stand firm before they become completely undermined.

SEMI GONEYALI,
Tailevu,
Fiji.

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Churchman leads spending protest

Supreme Court judge, Mr Geoffrey Martin, has ruled that the Tongan High Court has jurisdiction in an action brought by a private citizen against members of parliament (December PIM page 13) for alleged misuse of public money.

The judge said the action by Ipeni Siale raised the issue of whether members of the legislative assembly are subject to the court's jurisdiction.

In a written opinion, he said the court is entitled to ascertain whether there was a collective decision of the house on allowances. The court can then investigate whether the allowances paid to each member were calculated correctly.

He added that the actions of individual members in claiming and receiving their allowances has nothing to do with the basic functions of the house.

These matters, he said, are open to investigation by the court and are not subject to parliamentary privilege.

The Siale case is likely to be heard next month.

Interest in the cases is running at peak tide in the islands community. At least one Free Wesleyan Church minister has asked the church to take a formal stand.

In the church's quarterly meeting Dr Mohe Noa Puloka asked the church to endorse and promote a peace and justice march to demonstrate the people's concern for the integrity and honesty of their leaders.

That integrity, accepted over the years almost as an article of faith by the majority of the people, is under real scrutiny.

Revelations in the newspaper Kele'a and the two court cases have honed interest to a razor's

edge. Puloka, who has studied in America and Italy, has argued vigorously from the pulpit against the church remaining silent on the issues.

The Kele'a allegations have devastated many people as traditional Tongan culture teaches abhorrence of disrespect for authority.

"I was taught not to question God in heaven or the nobles on Earth," said Puloka who was principle of Tupou College for nearly five years.

"That clashes with modern education. As principle I taught kids to think critically. Thinking clashes with the old culture."

That almost childlike faith in government leaders has been washed away like a sandcastle on the beach.

For example, legislators have been accused of submitting a combination of vouchers to the treasury that were paid to restaurants in Nuku'alofa. Kele'a was moved to inquire why the "Honourable members of parliament, who led the fonos (public meetings to explain new tax laws) in Tongatapu, slept in restaurants and not in their nice government-paid homes."

Puloka and Roman Catholic Bishop Patrick Finau have been the most vocal critics among the religious ranks. Puloka said his whole motivation in speaking

out was his faith "in the life death and resurrection of my lord Jesus Christ".

He said, "I'm a simple Christian pastor. That's why I'm speaking out."

However not only the clerics have been voicing their criticisms. The people themselves are becoming disenchanted.

A subsistence farmer on Tongatapu talked of his frustrations and those of his colleagues.

Short, spare but well-muscled through hard physical effort, he grows root crops and other food for his family on his bush allotment. He hopes to augment his small income by growing tomatoes and carrots for sale at the local market.

"People are angry," he said. "Prices are high in the market for people who don't have land. Labour wages are now just four pa'anga (about A\$4) a day. That 20 pa'anga doesn't go very far to buy food for a family," said the man who requested that his identity be kept secret.

"Our leaders are supposed to look out for the people. They look out for themselves. People now say bad words when they see these legislators in public."

Kele'a also published a letter submitted to the police minister requesting his resignation.

The newspaper ran details of

the payment each member received for fonos attended in Tongatapu, Ha'apai and Vava'u. Members were credited for working from 55 to 181 days according to the paper and received sums ranging from P10,529 to P1,356. The fonos ran for 12 days.

Total expenses for parliament topped \$2 million, Kele'a alleged, more than double the government's expenditure estimate of \$758,000.

Publishing continues to be a booming cottage industry in Tonga. The latest entrant is Ipeni Siale, the plaintiff in one of the court actions. His newspaper, called Fetu'uesiafi or Shooting Star, debuted with several analysis articles by staff of the US Peace Centre in Tonga and 'Atenisi College assessing current developments.

The crux of the cases before the Supreme Court is whether or not the parliament is answerable to anyone during its activities.

In submissions before Mr Justice Martin, plaintiffs' lawyer, Laki Niu argued that the Supreme Court has constitutional jurisdiction in all cases.

The defendants, however, represented by Auckland-based solicitor Clive Edwards and David Tupou, Tonga's solicitor-general, argued that the legislature is operated under parliamentary privilege because of constitutional guarantees.

The controversy will have a significant effect on this month's people's representative elections. There is a heavy slate of candidates and the allegations against current legislators have not helped their re-election campaigns.

This year marks the 112th year of Tonga as a constitutional monarchy. And it is likely to be one of the most significant years in the nation's rich history.

Editor of Kele'a Viliami Fukofaka. The magazine has shocked the nation.

PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY



Confrontation: The politics of dissent



The French government is lining up for direct confrontation with Kanaks and South Pacific Forum states over the issue of independence for New Caledonia. French Overseas Territories Minister Bernard Pons has pushed talks with the FLNKS to the point of rupture, while French tactics at the UN demonstrated the Chirac government's ire at international interest in the decolonisation of New Caledonia.

The UN general assembly voted overwhelmingly in December (89 votes to 24) in support of the South Pacific Forum resolution to relist New Caledonia with the UN decolonisation committee but the Chirac government has said it won't co-operate.

The resolution affirmed the inalienable right to self-determination and independence of the people of New Caledonia and France would now be required to furnish reports to the UN on moves towards self-rule and on the economic and social well-being of New Caledonians.

French Ambassador to the UN, Mr Claude de Kamoullaria described the resolution as "unjustifiable" but the general assembly vote was hailed as a victory by South Pacific leaders.

Vanuatu's Prime Minister Father Walter Lini applauded the vote as "a victory for the people of New Caledonia and the South Pacific against colonialism" and Papua New Guinea PM Paias Wingti said this "major diplomatic triumph" was due to "the tireless efforts by Forum members, especially the spearhead partners" - PNG, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands.

New Solomon Islands PM Ezekiel Alebu said the vote was a "landmark achievement in South Pacific diplomacy and regional co-operation".

The Forum resolution was adopted despite a strong campaign of economic pressure by France against small UN countries likely to support New Caledonia's relisting. (The territory was originally listed with the decolonisation committee in the general post World War 2 decolonisation push, but was un-

ilaterally withdrawn by France in 1947).

Antigua was threatened with the deferral of a French loan for airport extensions, Zimbabwe was told that the development of a Peugeot plant was at risk, while Nigeria was warned that France would not co-operate with debt rescheduling.

At the same time France circulated a document at the

UN before the vote which strongly attacked the credibility of Australia and New Zealand in an unsuccessful attempt to drive a wedge between these and other Forum members.

The encouragement of migration to New Caledonia by past conservative governments in the face of growing Kanak independence claims is described as the encourage-

ment of "a certain balance among the populations of various origins by promoting the development of the early Melanesian settlers as much as that of other ethnic groups so that today the two largest groups are roughly equal in number." Kanaks are now a minority (43 per cent) in New Caledonia.

The memo condemned Aus-

Aussie baiting popular in French press

As a result of frequent criticism in Forum member countries — especially Australia — about France's doings in the Pacific, Aussie baiting has become a popular sport in Tahiti and New Caledonia.

The gist of these counter blasts which fill the columns of the local French language newspapers is invariably that all Australian critics are despicable hypocrites since, at the same time, they neglect their own Aborigines.

The real aim of the Australian anti-nuclear and human rights campaigns, they insist, is to boot France out of the region to make room for Australian business houses and missions to take over the French islands.

The following commentary, written by one of the most widely read French journalists in Tahiti, Christine Bourne, is a typical example:

"Our Australian neighbours and supposed friends, who in their newspapers regularly pillory us and act as dispensers of moral lessons — they are, for instance, ardent defenders of oppressed peoples, especially the Melanesians of New Caledonia (sic), but are, at the same time, blind to the misfortunes of their own degenerated and alcoholic aborigines locked up in reserves where the stone age still reigns, and who are always on the sly opposed to the French presence in the Pacific, which make them the preferred contacts of Polynesians who favour independence — these Australians have belatedly begun to realise that they have been outdone.

Thus it happened recently, when (FLNKS leader) Tjibaou sent his militants to Gaddafi instead of sending them to school, the Australian government with great lucidity refused these sorcerer's apprentices transit permission and turned them back.

The Australian news agency also informs us that in Papua New Guinea the highlanders, seized by destructive frenzy, steal, rape,

burn and butcher everybody within reach, forcing all Australians who live in this region to pack and go home.

But all these good and gentle Australians who give us moral lessons by telling sad tales about fishes floating with their bellies in the air, about withered flowers and about people reduced to a ghostlike state (here in French Polynesia), also practise with supreme address the barbarian sport of dwarf throwing — although nothing is said about it in PIM.

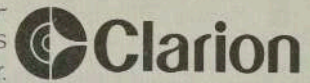
The objects are real human beings who have never grown up because of the malfunctioning of their thyroid gland. Although this is not yet an Olympic sport it is greatly appreciated in Australia where competitions are regularly organised ... Fortunately the Australian Association of Small People has protested against this debasing exploitation of dwarfs which has consequently prompted the governments of New South Wales and Victoria to prohibit this exciting, typically Anglo-Saxon sport.

After which one must marvel over the political cleverness with which the Australians are pulling off the trick of masquerading as defenders of enslaved men."

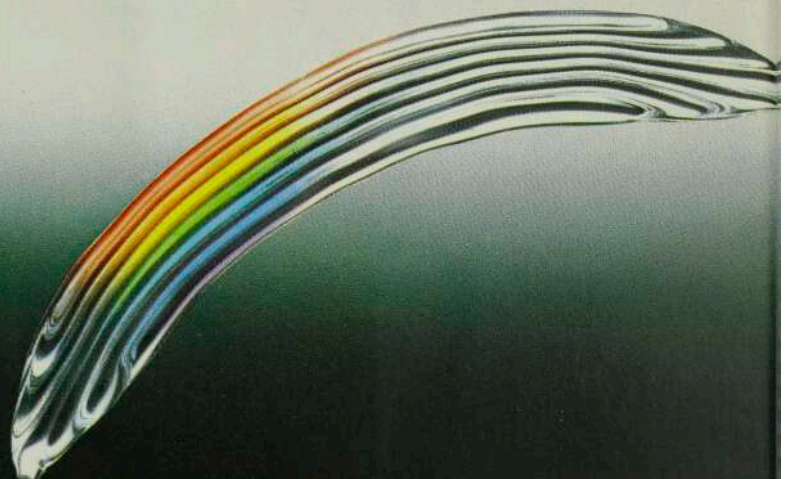
Ms Bourne offered no explanation as to why dwarf throwing might be of interest to PIM readers.

And her own readers would have been unaware of several facts including those that the Australian government did not interfere with the visit of a group of ni-Vanuatu and one kanak to Libya. (They returned a few days after they were mistakenly turned back and were permitted to complete their journey), that regular dwarf throwing competitions are not a feature of Australian life, that all PNG highlanders do not rape, steal and butcher, and, finally, they were not told of the further fact that the British promoter of dwarf throwing said in a previous interview that he got the idea after discovering this "typically Anglo-Saxon sport" in France.

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ustralia and New Zealand for their treatment of Aborigines and Maoris and declared "Caledonian society is hence just the opposite of the distorted picture painted by some in order to better serve their own prejudices and interests".

And speaking during the UN debate on the Forum resolution Ambassador de Kemoularia said Australia and New Zealand had poor records in administering multi-racial societies and should refrain from giving lessons to France.

Australian Ambassador to the UN, Mr Richard Woolcott told the General Assembly the French argument that New Caledonia was an integral part of France was "myth and legal fiction".

Woolcott added that France had previously used the same argument about Algeria and could not indefinitely resist the decolonisation of New Caledonia.

After the vote Mr Chirac warned that his government would not forget Australia's sponsorship of the UN moves for New Caledonia's decolonisation - a threat which Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden said he took seriously.

Australia told France the document, which refers to Australia as "manipulating and pernicious" was incorrect and insulting and urged France to pursue dialogue and a factual approach to the matter.

Following the UN decision Overseas Territories Minister Pons flew to Noumea for talks with political leaders and to announce new French autonomy plans to be put at next year's referendum.

The four regional councils would be kept (three are controlled by the FLNKS at present) but boundaries would be redrawn — sources in Noumea said the effect would be to minimise the FLNKS vote and to place key resources and installations in areas under loyalist control.

Pons also announced a 3 year residency requirement for the referendum in a manoeuvre intended to appear as a "a big concession to the FLNKS".

The FLNKS said after leaders met with Mr Pons that this was

unacceptable and that the FLNKS insisted in line with UN resolution 1514 that only the Kanaks as colonised people and perhaps others with one parent born in the territory should take part in the referendum.

Noumea sources described Mr Pons as having "moved away from seeking compromise to a hard-line position". The FLNKS announced the rupture of dialogue with Pons and called on President Mitterrand to dismiss him as Overseas Territories Minister.

Spokesman Mr Yeiwene Yeiwene said Pons had become the mouthpiece of the anti-independence forces. On his return to the territory FLNKS President Jean-Marie Tjibaou

stressed that dialogue had not been severed with the French Government and that he hoped to deal with "someone less partisan and more serious". FLNKS leaders are due to meet with the French government early in 1987 and they are calling for the involvement of UN observations with France on terms and conditions for the referendum.

While in Noumea Pons announced that the referendum would be advanced from July 87 to April 87 in what was seen as a move to hold the poll before the UN decolonisation committee could act. However Pons learned a short time later that the French parliamentary timetable had been changed following the Chirac govern-

ment's strife over the education reform bill — making it more likely the referendum would be held as planned in the middle of the year.

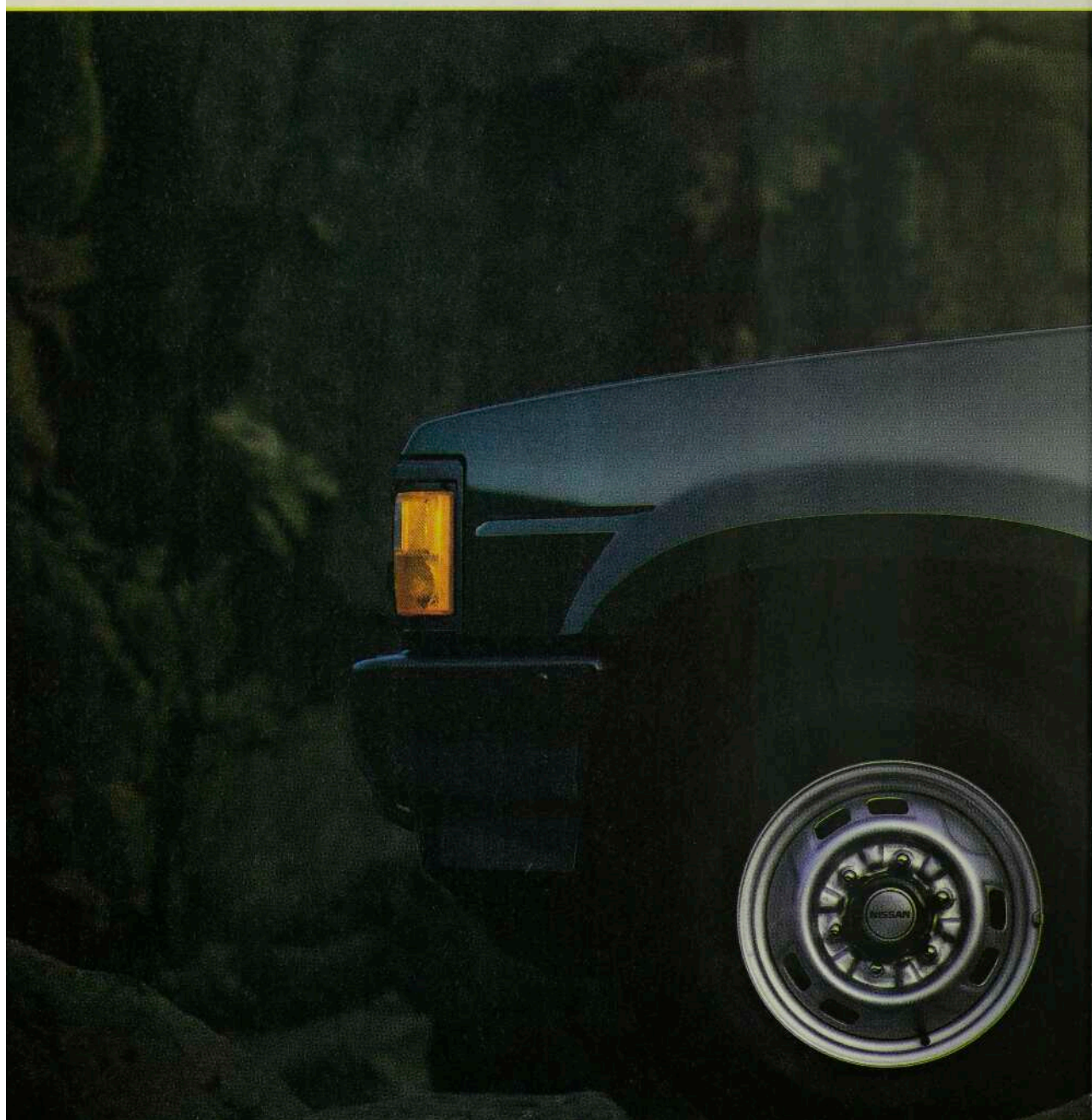
Forum Chairman Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara has written to the decolonisation committee chairman urging prompt consideration of the New Caledonia question when the committee of 24 meets this month.

As reports from Paris indicate a slump in popularity of the Chirac government and with more challenges to government plans forecast by student and union movements it appears their New Caledonia policies will only add to the government's troubles. — *Helen Fraser.*

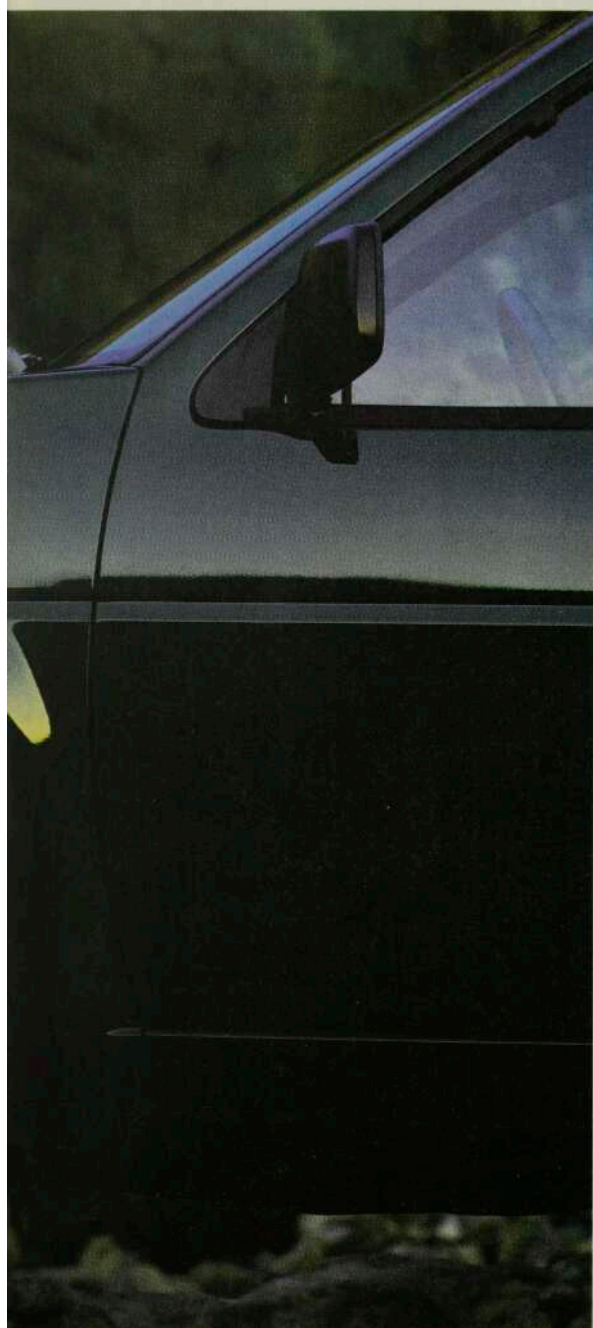


The Kanak flag is held high at a "Pilou-Pilou" in New Caledonia: Photo Helen Fraser.

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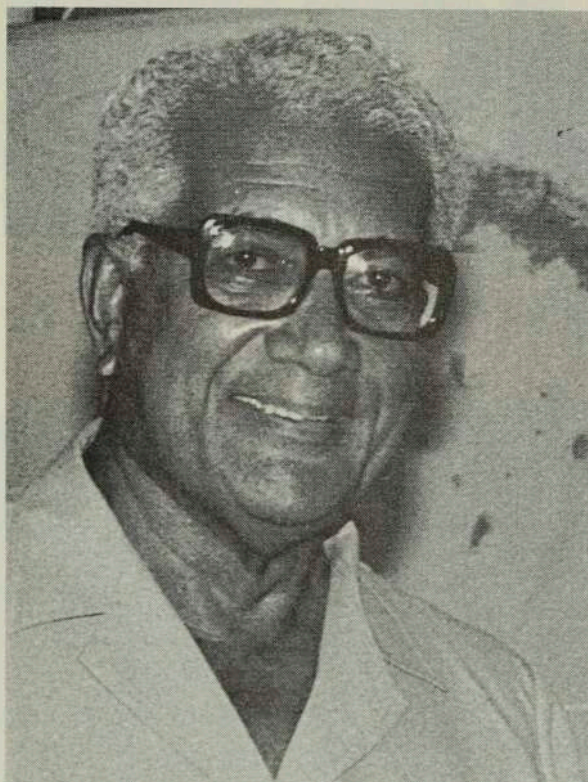
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Quality in motion





Ratu Mara's challenge

With the Fiji general election finally fixed for April 4-11, the battleground is clearly defined. But there has been plenty of action behind the lines, reports our Suva correspondent, that will have an important bearing on the eventual outcome.

When Fiji's prime minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, announced that the general election would be held in April, he squashed widespread speculation that he would opt for a lightning campaign this month.

Nevertheless, the voters will go to the polls six months before the election was due.

When Ratu Mara announced his decision in late December, the campaign was already in full swing for Fiji's fifth post-independence general election.

And the prime minister who has governed since independence 16 years ago now faces possibly his stiffest electoral test.

The early election decision is partly a result of the momentum generated by a powerful looking coalition of the "traditional" opposition National Federation Party (NFP) and the two-year-old Labour Party.

It would not have escaped the politically astute Ratu Mara that the same momentum, given enough time, could become an electoral steamroller.

But the coalition is still a very real threat. Alliance analysts thought when it was first suggested that the coalition would never get its act together on agreed policies and candidates and would be aborted in its formative stages.

It didn't happen.

The Alliance team, on the other hand, have enough in their favour to risk an early vote.

The current line-up in the 52-member House of Repre-

sentatives is: Alliance, 29; NFP, 19; Labour 4 (former NFP members). But before the defection to the Alliance of former NFP deputy leader, Mrs Narayan (see box), and the four to Labour, it was a straight 28 Alliance to 24 NFP, reflecting the two-horse race at the 1982 poll.

The Labour Party was born in July, 1985 with the support of Fiji's trade union movement. Originally seen as a protest against the government-imposed wage freeze and the inability of the NFP to prevent it, Labour has quickly found a political constituency.

Led by able and experienced ex-civil servants, the party already controls the capital's municipal council. It also only narrowly lost a by-election to the Alliance.

Previously a safe 5,000-majority NFP seat, it fell to the Alliance as a result of Labour's splitting of the Indian vote. The lesson was not lost on the NFP and Labour leaderships. The seeds of coalition had been sown.

The NFP-Labour coalition was officially endorsed at a working committee NFP meeting following intense closed-door negotiations.

Both sides had fielded their first XVs. Former opposition leader Mr Jai Ram Reddy played a pivotal role in hammering out the agreement. Labour leader Dr Timoci Bavadra was chosen as coalition leader, with NFP chief Mr Harish Sharma as his deputy.

Hard on the heels of the formal launch of the coalition,



The leaders: Prime minister Ratu Mara (top) and opposition leader, Dr Timoci Bavadra.

came the grumbles from candidates and potential candidates that the NFP had sold out by accepting a "junior" partner as coalition leader.

But the hard headed policy makers saw it as a smart move — neutralising potential Alliance claims that an Indian would be prime minister if the coalition won the election.

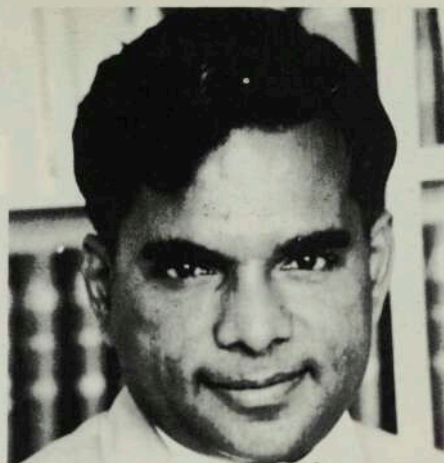
This left the Alliance (in an unsigned statement) to denounce the NFP for "surrendering its birthright" by teaming up with Labour.

But amid the bickering and complaints from all sides, the coalition quietly went ahead and identified some 30 seats it now considers winnable.

After that shaky start, coalition unity now appears impregnable. But given the opposing ideologies and personalities that exist within its ranks, the appearance may be no more than veneer. United in its aim to beat the Alliance, the coalition would face its first real unity crisis if and when its primary goal is achieved.

Faced with coalition solidarity, the Alliance got into gear. Parliament was dissolved on December 18 in preparation for the election.

And the coalition is not the only threat. The Fijian Nationalist Party has been running a quiet but possibly effective campaign. If it wins one seat —



NFP leader Mr Harish Sharma.

Defection is windfall profit

The most surprising development in Fiji's pre-election horse trading was the defection of former deputy opposition leader, Mrs Irene Jai Narayan to the ruling Alliance party.

Mrs Narayan, a 54-year-old parliamentarian who has consistently held her Indian communal seat in Suva with a seemingly unassailable majority, had previously been the most vocal and articulate critic of the Alliance government.

And although her defection took many people by surprise, it appears to have been the only political avenue left open to her.

Her drift away from the NFP began in 1985 when Mr Koya, after regaining the party's leadership from Mr Reddy, withdrew from her the facilities of the opposition office in Suva's government buildings.

Mrs Narayan and Mr Koya have never seen eye to eye since she challenged him for the NFP leadership and lost by a solitary vote.

After shutting her out of the opposition office, Mr Koya, in a July 1985 shadow cabinet reshuffle, removed her from the deputy leader's chair. He offered her the education portfolio which he must have known she would reject.

Later she announced that she could no longer support the party leader and was withdrawing her support for the NFP. Her formal resignation was finally submitted the following December when she styled herself an independent MP. After a brief fling with the Labour Party, it was mutually agreed that there was insufficient consensus for a lasting partnership.

Mrs Narayan — a powerful, ambitious and determined character — may have been too much of a risk for the then infant Labour Party which was trying to establish its own identity out of the NFP shadow.

For her part, Mrs Narayan couldn't be seen to be playing second fiddle for too long.

Her options: Time was running out with an election looming. To run as an independent is political suicide in Fiji — even for an MP of Mrs Narayan's stature. She had burned all bridges to the NFP. That left the Alliance — who, as chance would have it, were at the time desperate

to take on board an Indian politician of Mrs Narayan's calibre and following.

The prime minister himself was very keen to have an effective Indian voice in the party. Her changed allegiance represents a huge windfall profit for the Alliance because of her massive personal following.

However, neither she or her new party are counting on that personal support. And rather than risk a communal seat, Mrs Narayan will contest a national marginal seat in an effort to secure it for the Alliance.

Ratu Mara was reported to be delighted to have her in the Alliance line-up and Mrs Narayan is assured of a cabinet portfolio should the Alliance Party form the next government. The former high school teacher is tipped for either education or health.

But while she has been welcomed by the Alliance hierarchy, there have been the inevitable grumbles — especially from the Indian wing of the party who fear she will eclipse any influence they may have with the party leader. And it seems likely that Mrs Narayan will indeed become a close adviser to Ratu Mara on Indian affairs.

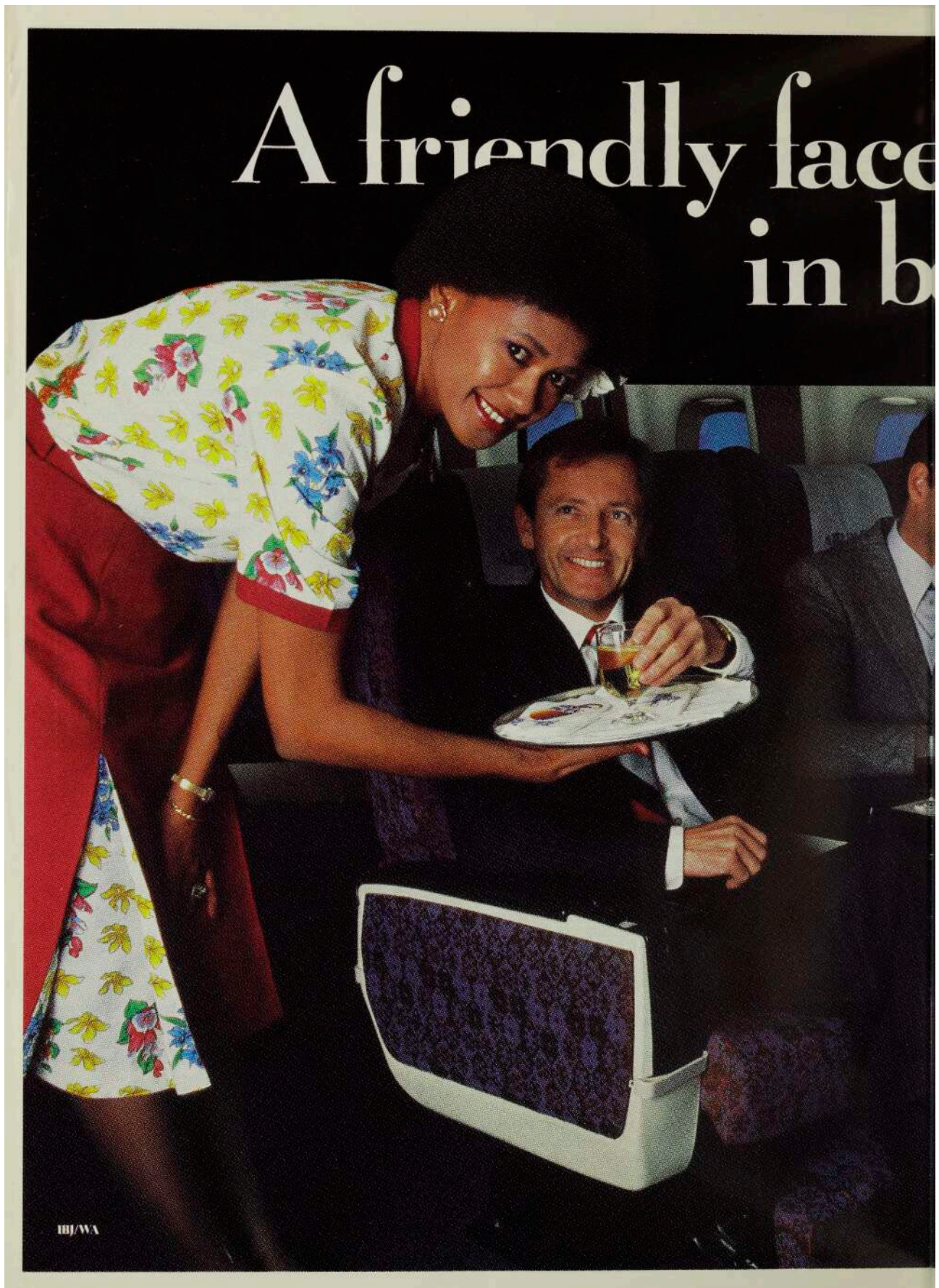
Other members have been critical of the manner in which she was accepted by the party directly — without first joining the Indian Alliance. But with Ratu Mara's personal support for her membership, their complaints will achieve little.

Mrs Narayan, meanwhile, has wasted no time in turning her previous denigration of the Alliance into outright support. She said the Alliance was the only party to have stood the test of time and predicted many more years of Alliance government.

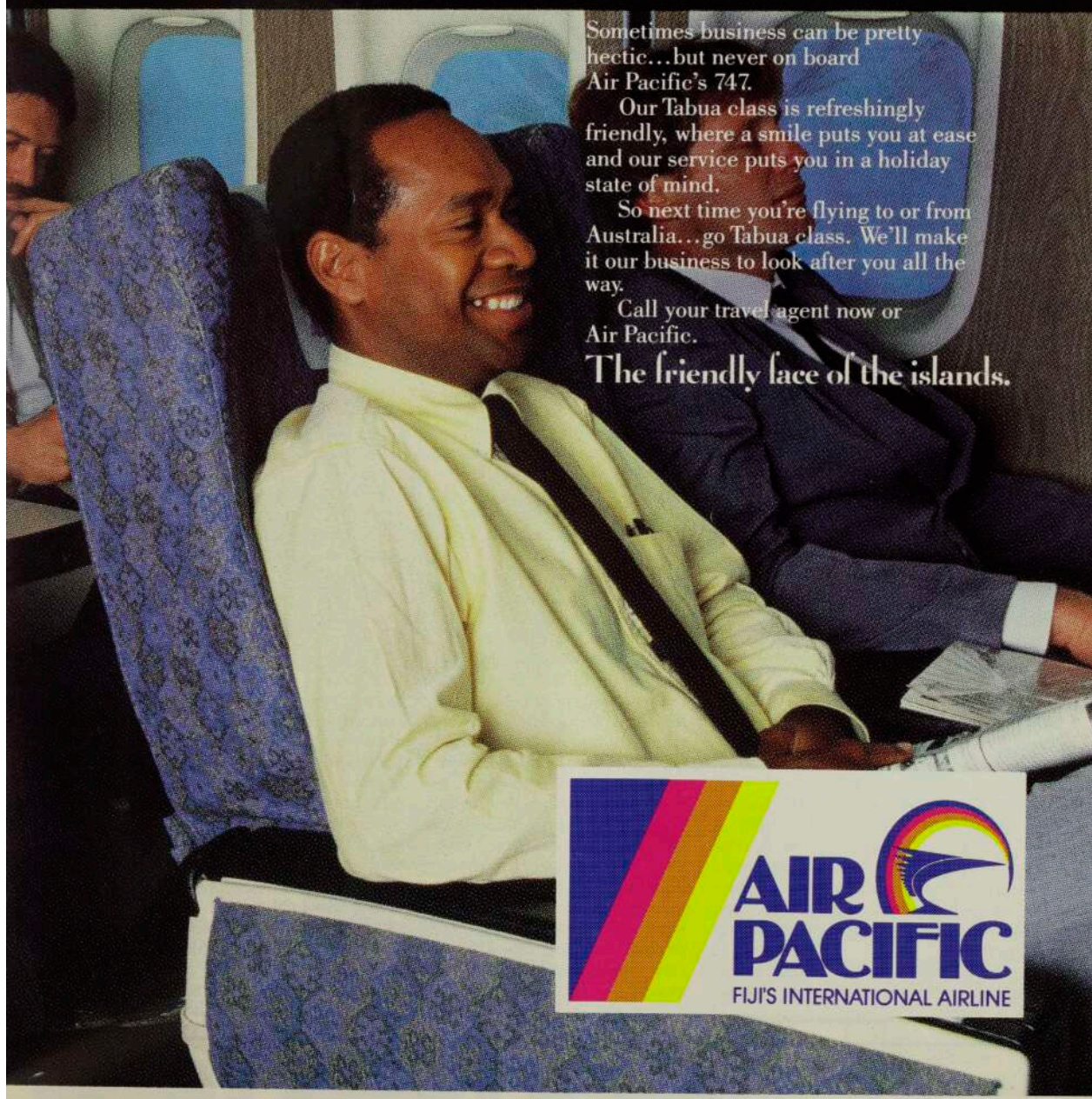
She told the Alliance delegates conference she was "happy to be in this happy household." However, political observers in Suva noted some difficulty in adapting to her unaccustomed role of backing rather than attacking the government line.

At a meeting of the Young Alliance, the party's youth wing, she was seen to falter when reading from notes — an unheard of performance from a lady who has been described as a fearless, able and forceful debater ready to take on any issue without prepared text.

But there is no doubt that she will make a significant contribution to the Alliance campaign.



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Outcome depends on ethnic votes

Fiji's electoral system is one of the world's most complex. For while most elected bodies have but one class of seats, Fiji's parliament has six. There are six kinds of ballot papers and each voter receives four, all colour coded, each dealing with a different class of seat.

No matter which major party or coalition runs the government, each Fiji elector is represented by four members, two certain to be of that voter's ethnic background and two certain *not* to be from that community.

The system stems from the desire of the departing British colonial masters and their local allies to create a system of government that would ensure that each of the three founding ethnic groups (Fijians, Indians and others) would be represented and also to ensure that whichever party or coalition forms the government would have substantial support from at least two of the three communities.

All of this is contained within a standard Westminster-style democracy in which the dominant group chooses the prime minister and forms the government. The British "first past the post" system of single member districts was also retained.

Then, to meet the long-term goals regarding multi-cultural participation in Fijian politics, it was decided that parliament would be divided into two broad categories of seats and then into three sub-categories within each of the two main classes to make a total of six.

There are 52 seats — 25 national and 27 communal. Voters from all ethnic groups elect the national MPs while only voters from the specific ethnic communities elect the communal members.

As a result the six classes of seats break down thus: Fijian National (10); Indian National (10); General National (5); Fijian Communal (12); Indian Communal (12); General Communal (3).

When a Fijian voter goes to the polls he has to make four decisions. He will vote for a Fijian to represent him in the Fijian communal seat, another Fijian to represent him in the Fijian national seat and an Indian and a member of the "general" population to represent him in the Indian and general constituencies.

And while the individual voter has to worry about four contests, the political parties — and the civil servants who run the electoral machinery — have to cope with all six classes of districts. To make matters harder (or perhaps more interesting), these six classes of districts are geographically overlapping.

This apparently tangled situation has been largely rationalised by the division

between the parties. The ruling Alliance Party has held a majority of the Fijian and General vote while the opposition National Federation Party (NFP) has had majority support among the Indian voters.

In fact a study of the 1982 general election results indicates that a knowledge of which ethnic group dominated a given electorate would have enabled accurate prediction of the outcome.

The communal seats were the easiest to pick: Alliance won all Fijian and all General seats; NFP won all Indian seats. Totals for the communal seats — Alliance: 15, NFP: 12.

The 1982 national seats winners related directly to the ethnic majority in each case. In five of the national Indian seats there were more Fijians and Europeans than Indians on the rolls. The Alliance won.

In the other five Indian national seats the reverse was the case and the NFP won. Similarly, in the national Fijian seats a five-five split occurred while the five general seats divided three for Alliance and two for NFP — again mirroring the ethnic make up of the voters. The totals for the national seats were: Alliance, 13; NFP, 12. Alliance won overall by 28 to 24.

However, in some pre-1982 elections the ethnic factor was not quite so obvious. Every so often, Alliance won seats in districts with Indian majorities, for example. But by 1982 Alliance took only those seats where Indian voters were outnumbered.

If anyone is over-represented by the system, it's the general voters. In 1982 there were 6,800 of them compared to some 110,000 Indians and 120,000 Fijians. So the general voters, with about 3 per cent of the votes, controlled 15 per cent of the seats. Although the most recent population figures show a few more Indians than Fijians (48.6 per cent compared to 46.2 per cent) a higher percentage of Fijians than Indians apparently voted in 1982.

The opposition coalition of NFP and Labour Party that is seeking to overthrow the long entrenched Alliance Party of prime minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara will, while holding on to the Indian vote, have to do one of two things: convert a majority of the general voters to their cause or make a substantial enough dent in Fijian solidarity so that eight of the ten Fijian national seats vote for the opposition. (This would, if the 1982 pattern was otherwise repeated, produce an opposition majority of 27-25).

An opposition party could also win by simply breaking the ethnic hold over Fijian politics, winning majorities in constituencies dominated by both the major ethnic groups. — *David S. North.*

or, worse, splits the Fijian vote across the board — it would spell disaster for the Alliance.

In his address to the Alliance Party delegates conference late last year, Ratu Mara, in an apparent reference to the policies of the coalition, pledged continued peace and progress under an Alliance government.

Against a background of achievement and stability, who, he asked, would want to change "experience for an unknown quantity."

"Progress or stagnation; peace or instability; proven leadership or disunity," were the choices he offered.

In the same address, he also warned that he expected efficiency and proper accounting from those he placed in high office. Leaders, he declared, should lead by example. "There must be honesty and integrity of the highest order."

The Labour leader replied by referring to the Alliance Party as a "a wolf in sheep's clothing, stalking among the trusting voters."

According to the provisional electoral rolls released in late December, a total of 331,326 voters were registered compared to 292,341 in 1982.

The prime minister has brought in new blood with an intake of younger, more sophisticated candidates to replace some of the "old guard." Similarly, the NFP has dropped a number of sitting MPs, preferring younger, more experienced and energetic former civil servants and administrators.

The Alliance retired 11 sitting members, including four cabinet ministers, from its line-up of 52 candidates while the coalition has chopped 18 members from its initial list of 39.

The cabinet ministers to go are veterans Mr Mohammad Ramzan, minister for employment and industrial relations, Mr Edward Beddoes, the housing and urban affairs minister, lands and energy minister Mr Jone Naisara and home affairs minister, Mr Akariva Nabati.

Recognising, perhaps, that the days of the old colonial-style politicians are over, prime minister Mara has opted for educated professionals with proven track records. He has included the articulate and effi-



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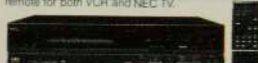
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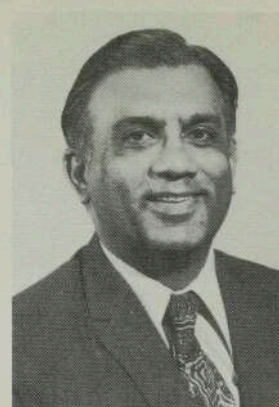
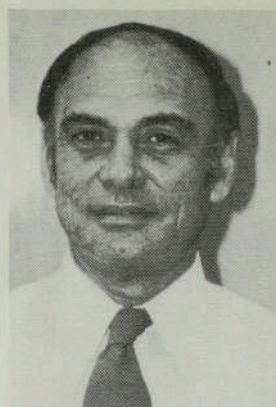


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Dropped: Former cabinet ministers Mr Akariva Nabati (left) and Mr Jone Naisara.



Dropped: Former ministers Mr Edward Beddoes (left) and Mr Mohammed Ramzan.

cient secretary of the Public Service Commission, Mr Narsi Raniga; the general manager of the Fiji Electricity Authority, Mr David Pickering; the authority's chairman, Mr Viliame Gonelevu; insurance broker, Mr Archie Seeto and, of course, Mrs Irene Jai Narayan.

Other young faces in the

Alliance line-up are district officer, Mr Veer Singh and Ratu Tu'akitau Cakanauto.

While Ratu Mara has ruthlessly cut away much old wood, he has been obliged to retain some sitting MPs who enjoy strong traditional support in their areas — such as Ratu William Toganivalu and Mr

Militoni Leweniaia, both former cabinet members.

The Alliance team also contains some defectors. Apart from Mrs Narayan, there is Mr Shiromani Madhavan, a former NFP man and the son of one of that party's founding fathers; Mr Vinod Singh, also ex-NFP; and Mr Mahendra Sukhdeo, a former vice-president of the Labour Party.

However, their party endorsement has brought loud objections from traditional Alliance supporters who had hoped to run on the Alliance ticket. According to them, the defectors are given a greater say and more recognition than the old party faithful.

For this reason, the Alliance Party has had to deal with near-rebellion from a section of its supporters.

It's not alone. The NFP's passed-over veterans have threatened to field parallel candidates. The main complaint has been that Labour has had the upper hand in the selection process.

Two big names in Fiji politics — former opposition leaders Mr Siddiq Koya and Mr Jai Ram Reddy — were missing from the initial list of coalition candidates. Mr Reddy declined an invitation to join the platform, while Mr Koya was sacrificed in an effort to present a fresh image.

In the past the many lawyers in the NFP had been accused of failing to give sufficient priority to their parliamentary duties and the new coalition emphasis

is on academics and experienced or retired civil servants well-versed in the workings of government.

But Ratu Mara may have upstaged his opponents by fielding his own new-look team.

The unknown factor for both sides is the spoiling potential of rebel candidates, especially in the marginal seats. Both the main parties have gone to great lengths to present the voters with a list candidates free of colonial "hang-ups".

But the Alliance appeared to grab the early initiative with a list of achievement-backed candidates and a set of issues that could catch the coalition off balance.

continued on page 55

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Applications are invited for the above position from suitably qualified applicants with research experience in Pacific societies and cultures. The appointment will be for a term of up to five years to be negotiated.

The Macmillan Brown Centre is currently being established, and the appointee, its first Director, will be expected to promote the development of the Centre in co-operation with an advisory committee. It is anticipated that the Centre will actively encourage research, teaching and publication related to the Pacific, organise public lectures, conferences, and seminars, and appoint visiting fellows engaged in research. The annual budget of the Centre will be about \$250,000.

The salary will be within the range \$37,000 to \$59,000 per annum on the scales for Senior Lecturer to Reader. Applications close on 31 May 1987.

Further particulars and information about the Centre and Conditions of Appointment may be obtained from the undersigned or from registrars of all other universities in New Zealand. W. Hansen, Registrar, University of Canterbury, Private Bag, Christchurch, New Zealand.

ALL THE NEWS IN A FLASH

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THE SOUTH SEA DIGEST

THE VIEW FROM TOKYO

Japan has turned its attention to the Pacific. Alerted to the Russian overtures to island nations, the world's foremost economic power has moved to fill the commercial and, perhaps, strategic gap left by the years of western neglect.

But it won't be all plain sailing for Japan.

Australia, stung by Tokyo's refusal to relent on home market access, has declined the role of southern hub in a north-south Pacific axis of influence.

Nevertheless, Japanese foreign minister Mr Tadashi Kuranari's major policy speech in Suva was welcomed in the islands.

His remarks foreshadow a



Japanese foreign minister Mr Kuranari.

major Japanese aid and diplomacy initiative.

He assured his Suva audience, for example, that Japan

"fully recognises the political significance that the South Pacific Forum bears and I would like to announce today that Japan

will invite the head of government of the chair country and the director of SPEC to visit Japan immediately before or after the annual meeting of the Forum."

He stressed Japan's desire to preserve political stability in the region — though he carefully avoided any mention of the Soviet Union.

But he did say: "However much one may wish it otherwise, peace and stability cannot be maintained without adequate thought being given to global security considerations."

"This principle does not allow of any exception for the Pacific region despite its being far from the world's areas of heightened tension."

continued overleaf

Russia: We're not a threat

The Japanese are welcome, according to a senior Russian diplomat, provided the initiative does not become an anti-Soviet slanging effort. The second secretary at the Soviet embassy in Canberra, Mr Vladimir Valkov, told PIM: "Personally, I would welcome Japanese moves economically and with aid — as long as it does not become an anti-Soviet campaign."

He said it was "obvious the Soviet Union can't create a threat to anybody in the (South Pacific) region — not to Australia or New Zealand. Threats are not what we're looking for and we don't make an exception for South Pacific countries. We are looking for normal relations."

Mr Valkov said the Soviet Union had no special approach to the South Pacific but that it was an integral part of their overall Pacific policy. Looking at the Oceanic countries, he said, Russia had realised that their relationships were all but non-existent with no political dialogue, virtually no economic exchanges and no cultural understanding.

"We saw this as abnormal," said Mr Valkov. "We don't see why the Soviet Union should be excluded from co-operation, why the Soviet Union should be excluded from the region."

At the time of the interview, Russia and Vanuatu were on the verge of signing their fishing agreement with the text virtually settled. The Russians were awaiting the final word from Port Vila.

After the initial talks in Sydney, Australia's foreign minister, Mr Bill Hayden, had warned Vanuatu that it lacked the resources to counter possible political manipulation if it went ahead with the deal under which the Soviet Union would be granted port access.

Mr Hayden, in a three-day visit to New Zealand, repeated remarks he had earlier made in an interview with PIM (July, page 23): "The Soviet Union on the

ground, on past experience, will take the opportunity to engage in activity other than commercial activity."

However, Vanuatu's prime minister, Fr Walter Lini rejected the warning and described Mr Hayden's remarks as "Australian paranoia" that was both naive and paternalistic.

The previous fishing agreement between Russia and a Pacific island nation ended when Kiribati rejected a Soviet renewal offer of US\$1 million — substantially less than the \$2.4 million paid the previous year.

Mr Valkov: "There was speculation that we paid this money to Kiribati just to be able to get close — but any deal is considered from the point of view of economic efficiency. And if we are not satisfied with the result, as with Kiribati, we will not pay this sum of money."

"We are not going to pay anything just to be here. If we pay for fishing rights, we want fish."

"I understand what politicians say about so-called Soviet penetration, the threats to the stability of the South Pacific, to the sovereignty of South Pacific nations, but sometimes the politicians don't believe in it themselves."

He said the situation in the South Pacific was changing and "the general attitude towards the Soviet Union has changed. People can't understand why they can't trade with the Soviet Union and receive ambassadors."

The Soviets have also invited Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and other island states to participate in a broad range of trade links. But the reception so far has been cool, though nobody has yet given a definite 'no'.

Mr Valkov said Russia was one of the world's largest, if not the largest, fishing nations with over 100 fishery agreements with other countries. He said he was "quite astonished" that the recent signing of an important fishing agreement with Canada had not worried anyone.

— Helen Fraser

Mr Kuranari, speaking through an interpreter and still avoiding direct mention of the Soviets, added: "Japan cannot support the introduction of new tension into this peaceful and untroubled region."

He said Japan would, subject to parliamentary approval:

- Provide \$US2 million to the UNDP to be earmarked for development projects in the islands;

- Provide US\$1 million for appropriate technology research;

- Increase visits by young islanders to Japan for training and experience.

Mr Kuranari noted that Japan's aid to the region had grown five times in ten years, "but I have ordered a study of ways to expand Japan's co-operation yet further."

The UNDP money would go mainly to transport and telecommunications, he said, while the research grant was earmarked for the project, "Open Cycle Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion at the Pacific International Centre for High

Technology Research in Hawaii.

Mr Kuranari also met the Fiji prime minister Ratu Mara and inspected a new nursing school that had been built with Japanese aid.

He met Japanese volunteers who are spending two years working in Fiji's Mineral Resources Department.

On Fiji's (and most island nations') trade imbalance with Japan, Mr Kuranari, interviewed on his arrival, was in encouraging mood.

He said he hoped that Fiji enterprises would make every effort to sell goods to Japan, which the government in Tokyo was prepared to encourage.

Tourism, he said, was one area with great potential. More flights into Fiji (Air Pacific had just announced a regular weekly service in partnership with JAL) would attract more Japanese tourists.

And Japan, he said, would be willing to buy more of Fiji's sugar — provided quality, price and delivery were right.

Helen Fraser writes: Japan plans to move into the South Pacific as a significant aid donor, though without the degree of support and encouragement that had been sought from Australia.

At the two day Australia-Japan Ministerial Committee talks held in Canberra relations between the two delegations suffered severe strain when Japan failed to make the economic concessions expected by Australia.

The Japanese sought Australian participation in an alliance to thwart the growing Soviet presence in the South Pacific but Australia would not agree to a strong political relationship in the face of fundamental divisions between the two countries on economic issues.

After talking for two days Mr Kuranari said it was agreed that Japan and Australia would "hold close bilateral discussions on the theme of co-operation with the island states of the Pacific".

Mr Kuranari said he had a deep personal interest in the

region and wanted to find out for himself what Japan could do, adding that Japan would call on Australia's "wisdom and experience" in the matter.

But Australia has indicated that it may just keep that "wisdom and experience" to itself.

Mr Kuranari acknowledged that no actual mechanism had been established to allow consultation on this use of Australian experience in South Pacific aid — a step which would have resulted from the talks had Japan been more forthcoming with economic concessions for Australia.

Australian ministers had pointed out to Japan that unless Australia received more favourable treatment from Japan on access to their markets, particularly iron ore, coal and beef, then Australia's ability to advance western interests in the region would be hampered.

While Japanese ministers stressed that Japan would not seek to solve its economic problems with third countries at

continued on page 43

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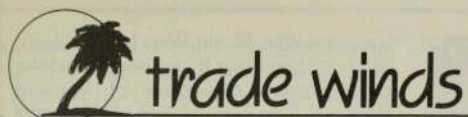
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Tuna deal pay out may be higher than expected

There's both good news and bad news for the islands regarding the pending U.S. tuna treaty.

The good news is that the islands may get more than the widely-quoted \$US2 million from the industry, and that they drove a considerably better bargain for fishing rights than did the Central American nations.

The bad news is that there are many hurdles to clear before any money changes hands, and that the islands, despite the use of lots of U.S. taxpayers' money, will only get a tiny portion of the retail value of the fish.

The basic arrangement is that the industry will provide about \$2 million and the U.S. Government \$10 million a year for the fishing rights for the next five years. The Government funds include \$1 million in economic development assistance, and \$9 million in cash, to be divided among the islands. The industry will pay a minimum of \$1.75 million a year in boat fees, and a flat \$250,000 a year in technical assistance to fishery-related projects.

There are two reasons why the industry may pay more than the anticipated \$1.75 million in fees. These fees are based on a minimum rate of \$50,000 per vessel, and if long-depressed tuna prices rise, the boat fees will rise proportionately. Similarly, it is sensed in Washington that more boats will seek licenses than the widely discussed total of 35. ($\$50,000 \times 35 = \$1,750,000$.)

There are 64 active purse seiners in the U.S. tuna fleet, and people in the industry expect that as many as 40 of them will seek the licenses.

Meanwhile, the tuna industry and the U.S. Government have been negotiating with four of the Central American nations whose waters contain abundant supplies of yellowfin tuna. This agreement, which is at about the same stage as the islands' negotiations, calls for a payment of \$36,000 per boat, about two-thirds of the figure secured by the members of the Forum Fisheries Association.

Should nearby Mexico join the Central American pact, with its ample fishery waters, the basic fee will climb to \$50,000, as in the islands. But whether the fee is

\$36,000 or \$50,000 there is no escalation fee in the event of price increases as there is in the islands deal.

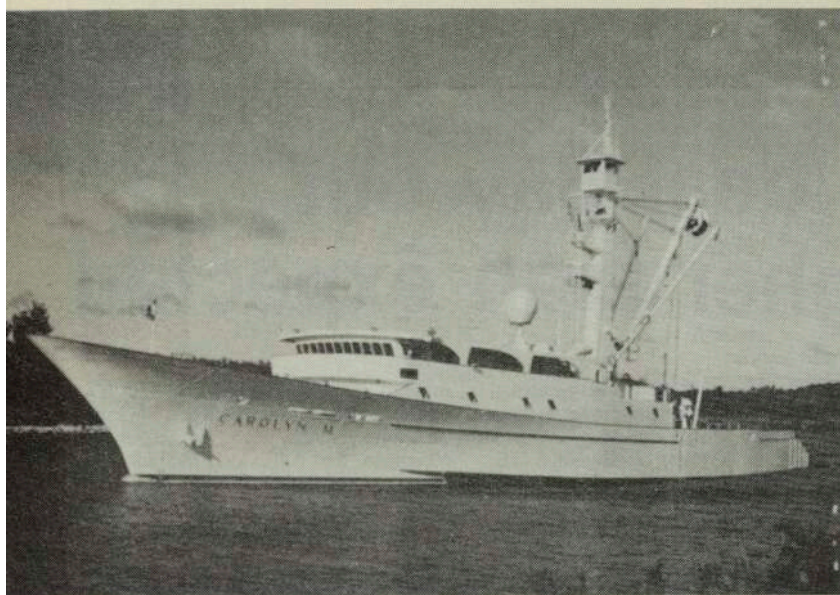
Further, while there is substantial U.S. Government cash accompanying the industry's payments to the islands, there is no comparable arrangement in Central

America. (On the other hand, the U.S. is so concerned about the growth of a communist threat in the area, particularly in Nicaragua, that it has long had an active economic development program in Central America.)

As is often the case, the bad news is



Star-Kist's Charlie the Tuna.



The model of a modern US tuna boat.

more complicated than the good news.

The current status of the tuna treaty is that the central problem has been solved; the islands, the industry and the United States have come to an agreement regarding the amount of money to move from the mainland to the islands. But before the money can start to move the following has to happen:

- Some minor matters of substance — such as defining areas where no fishing will be permitted — must be settled;
- The treaty must be signed by the U.S. and the 16 other jurisdictions (see box)
- The treaty must be ratified by the United States Senate and ten other jurisdictions.
- Enabling legislation must pass both

Houses of Congress and be signed into law by the President.

- The \$10 million must be appropriated by the U.S. Congress.

As the islands will discover, it takes time to do business with Uncle Sam, even when he is feeling friendly, as he is now on this issue.

Once a text has been agreed to, the document must be signed by the parties. While signing a treaty and ratifying it are essentially the same act in a parliamentary democracy, this is not the case in the U.S., where the Department of State, in effect, signs agreements, and then ships them over to the Senate for ratification.

And, sometimes in the past, what the executive branch wants the legislative branch denies. (The U.S. Senate, for instance, refused to ratify the Treaty of

Versailles after World War 1. That document, among other things, transferred the once-German ownership of Western Samoa to New Zealand, that of Nauru and part of Papua New Guinea to Australia, and that of the Micronesian islands to Japan.)

Although no opposition to the tuna treaty is expected, it will take time to get it through the Senate. The Treaty goes to the Committee on Foreign Relations, which has been showing every sign of being transfixed by the complex and messy Iran arms deal.

The new Democratic chairman of the Committee, Senator Claiborn Pell of Rhode Island, probably will want to spend most of his time investigating it. Pell, incidentally, a wealthy man and a former career foreign service officer is not regarded enthusiastically by many career people in State. His nickname: "Stillborn".

In the U.S. system the ratification of a Treaty (a process involving only the Senate) does not lead directly to the expenditure of funds. Before any of the \$10 million can get to the islands authorising legislation must be passed, and then, later, an appropriation must be voted. Both of these steps require the concurrence of both houses and the president.

Though no major obstacles are anticipated, all of this will simply take time.

PIM's analysis of the financial implications of the treaty suggest the following:

- The retail price of canned tuna is about \$1.70 to \$4.50 in the U.S.; the islands will get about three cents a pound of this from the industry.

- The U.S. taxpayers will bail out the big tuna corporations, with the Government contributing five times as much, or fifteen cents a pound, at retail, to the islands.

Tuna is a big, big business in the States. American consumers love the product, annually buying the equivalent of nearly 2,000,000,000 cans of the stuff each weighing 6.5 ounces. That is about eight cans a year for every man, woman and child in the nation. When you visit an American grocery store you will find a few cans of mackerel (most Americans regard canned mackerel as food for cats), a few cans of canned salmon (an expensive delicacy), some sardines, and row after row of canned tuna. (Tuna dominates the canned fish market, but not the fresh or frozen fish markets.)

In the large, efficient suburban supermarkets one buys 6.6 oz. cans of Western Pacific tuna at prices ranging from 73 cents to \$1.39. The cheapest available (at 73 cents) are non-advertised brands, usually carrying the store's own label. (People in the tuna industry say that such cans sometimes sell for as little as 59 cent)

Next up the scale are advertised products packed by the U.S. corporations

NMI wants a share

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CMI) is eyeing the impending tuna treaty and would like to be able to control its own territorial waters and make deals with foreign fishermen, just like the other island territories.

That FSM, the Marshalls and Palau will all get cash and other considerations from the treaty has not been lost on CMI.

The commonwealth, however, has opted for a different kind of relationship with the U.S. and the Federal Department of Interior is not enthusiastic about the prospect of NMI having those powers. "If they control the fishing rights, then California and Florida will make similar claims — and then where are we?" One interior Department source asked.

The waters around the Marianas are not regarded as major fishing grounds by the U.S. tuna industry, but U.S. tunaboats do visit Tinian to tranship their catches to refrigerated freighters heading for U.S. canneries.

whose canneries stand side-by-side at the end of Pago Pago's harbor, the Star-Kist segment of H.J. Heinz Co., and Ralston-Purina's Van Camp operation. Both brands of chunk light (not white) tuna packed in oil were priced at 88 cents in my local supermarket. Further up the scale was Star-Kist's solid light tuna packed in spring water and bearing a gold label (to distinguish it from the chunk light in a green label.) This came to \$1.39.

The most expensive tuna available was Van Camp's Chicken of the Sea fancy albacore (a solid white tuna) for \$1.79. While albacore is sometimes caught in the islands, it is a temperate zone, rather than a tropic zone, fish, and it is much more likely to be caught by Asian long-line boats than by the American tuna fleet. For all practical purposes albacore does not play a role in the pending fisheries agreement.

In order to compare what the consumer pays to what the islands receive, we accepted a State Department estimate that the American tuna fleet harvests about

100,000 tons a year in island waters. (This is about a quarter of the world-wide catch of the American fleet.) Since 100,000 tons is equal to 200,000,000 pounds, the \$2 million from the industry comes to one cent per pound for the raw fish. But since about two thirds of the harvest is lost in the cleaning and canning process, the islands are going to receive about three cents for each pound of island harvested tuna in American stores.

Using the same approach, and the \$10 million a year from the Government, we find that the U.S. will pay the islands about 15 cents a retail pound for the fish. (See box.)

Although Americans spend more than \$1.5 billion a year (if average retail prices are about \$2.00 a pound) on canned tuna the industry indicates that there are major problems: the price to the canneries has declined in recent years, and there is major competition from low-cost canneries elsewhere in the world, notably in Thailand.

U.S. Department of Commerce statistics

indicate that total sales of the U.S. tuna canneries have dropped from \$858 million in 1983 to \$821 million in 1985. (These are cannery prices, not retail prices; these canneries buy about half of their fish from U.S. boats such as those covered by the treaty, and half from foreign-flag vessels.

The tuna industry is struggling with a peculiar tariff structure which raises higher barriers against foreign oil-packed tuna than it does against water-packed tuna, which is growing in popularity as the nation grows more concerned about both weight and health. The tariff on the oil-packed product is 35 per cent, and it varies from 6 per cent to 12.5 per cent in the water-packed tuna, depending on the volume of imports.

Last year about 10 million of the 39 million cases of canned tuna consumed in the States were imported. (Japan and the European Community also have tariffs protecting their tuna industries; the current levels are about 24 per cent).

The tuna agreement reminds us that

Canned fish go further than live ones

If the Tuna Treaty is ratified and implemented, and if current price levels persist, these are the approximate prices of a pound of canned tuna caught by American boats at various points along the way to the American supermarket:

Island Governments receive from industry	3 cents
Island Governments receive from U.S. Government.....	15 cents
Tuna boat operators receive	\$.90-\$1.05
Canneries receive (avg. 1985 price)	\$1.51
Consumers pay	\$1.69-\$3.42

The prices above are for a pound of canned tuna; about three pounds of raw fish are needed for each pound of the finished product. In the rough calculations above it is assumed that the costs of the tuna boat operator includes the licence fee, that the cannery's costs include paying the tuna boats, and the like. All prices are in U.S. dollars.

What is notable about these numbers (a point not made to PIM by the industry) is the relatively high portion of the retail price paid to the primary producers, the fishermen.

A comparison (and not an exact one) can be made to the bread

industry. In the U.S. a wheat farmer gets about 4 cents a pound for his product, and then goes to the supermarket where he can buy bread for 80 or 90 cents a pound. (Wheat to bread includes more processing than skipjack to canned tuna, and bread, being light and delicate, is more expensive to transport than tuna, while bread is perishable, as canned tuna is not, but the comparison remains.)

There appear to be two factors which keep down the retail price of canned tuna; one is the growing presence of low-priced foreign competition and the tradition that American supermarkets place a relatively low mark-up on canned fish.

According to *Progressive Grocer*, the trade paper, the average markup (gross profit) for supermarket products is 24 per cent; it is about 20 per cent for canned tuna. (American supermarkets often use "loss leaders" which include such staples as canned tuna and sugar.)

The tuna prices above are approximations and averages. Raw fish from the islands are purchased for between \$600 and \$700 a ton (30 to 35 cents a pound) by the canneries with actual prices varying according to the species and the size, with

larger fish commanding more than smaller ones.

The tuna industry in the U.S., unlike petroleum, is not vertically integrated. In other words, Ralston-Purina (Star-Kist) and H. J. Heinz (Van Camp), for example, though corporate giants in the food business, own neither fishing boats nor supermarkets (while oil giants own oil wells and retail outlets).

Fishing is done usually by family-owned boats (sometimes with loans from the canneries), most of the families are Portuguese or Italian in background, and most are based in Southern Californian ports.

For the last twenty-five years American television viewers have been watching the antics of Charlie the tuna who is not quite good enough to be a Star-Kist tuna.

In the commercials the animated Charlie used a wide variety of ruses to outwit those who regard Charlie as a tuna low life; he always fails and is told "Sorry, Charlie" you are not good enough for Star-Kist.

The Star-Kist ads are created by the Chicago advertising agency, Leo Burnett, and promote tuna packed at Ralston-Purina's canners in American Samoa and Puerto Rico.

While the ads may not sound as charming in print as they are on the screen, they have made a major impact on American consumers, who buy more than \$1500 million worth of canned tuna annually. — David S. North.

these migratory fish often migrate more after they are caught than they do while alive — though they are long distance champions.

America has eight tuna canneries, two in American Samoa, one on Terminal Island, California, near the home base of most of the fleet, and five in Puerto Rico. It is not unusual for tuna caught in the Federated States of Micronesia, or near Papua New Guinea, to be carried (frozen) up to Tinian in the Northern Marianas, and transhipped there to a refrigerated ship on its way to either American Samoa or (via the Panama Canal) to Puerto Rico.

Then, once canned, it goes to sea again, say to New York harbor. This voyage, from FSM to Tinian to Puerto Rico and on to New York is more than 14,000 miles, or more than half way around the globe. I asked Ed Ryan of Star-Kist how often this occurs. "Happens every day," he said cheerfully.

Why are not more of the tuna canned closer to the site of the catch? Such as in the islands? One needs five raw materials to put together a fish cannery: in addition to the fish (which are easily transportable), there must be ample supplies of fresh water for processing, adequate and not-too-expensive labor (it is not attractive work), managerial skills and lots of capital.

Canneries use expensive machinery and

the cost of a new one runs in the tens of millions of dollars. The water factor apparently makes it unlikely that a major cannery can locate on one of the atoll islands. The recent price problems of the American industry suggest that no one is anxious to build a new cannery in the near future.

There is another variable in building a tuna cannery to serve the American market, and that is the U.S. tariff structure. One of the reasons why the tuna migrate so far after they are caught is that they must reach an American-flag tuna cannery or else face the barriers of the U.S. tariff system.

The four former trust territories (FSM, Northern Marianas, Marshalls and Palau) collectively have an option of producing as much as ten per cent of America's canned tuna market without being affected by tariffs. That would be an attractive, if somewhat elusive, prize for an island nation with sufficient water.

The conclusion of the tuna negotiations brings to the end a long round of island-hopping that was a mild stimulant to the tourist industry; before the last session in Nukualofa there had been nine previous meetings, in Raratonga, Port Moresby, Suva (two), Apia, Kona (Hawaii), Honolulu, Canberra and Wellington. About six people represented the United States at

each of the sessions, with Ed Wolfe, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and Fisheries leading the delegations.

Another six from the U.S. tuna industry, (including David Burney of the U.S. Tuna Foundation among others) and one or two representatives from each of the sixteen Pacific jurisdictions were also present. Thus it was a floating conversation, bringing some 40 people together ten times in the course of two and a half years. As this is written the basic distribution of funds among the islands has yet to be negotiated, a process in which the U.S. plays no role.

The tuna industry (and those working on the matter in the State Department) have heaved a collective sigh of relief. The industry finally secured its goal (as it has in the Central American region) of working out a regional fishing licence for what it regards as an acceptable fee.

No more worries about seized ships or difficult negotiations with single nations each seeking to impose its own (one-nation) licence. These were regarded as too expensive by the industry. At one point the fee for a single boat, issued by a single nation, became as high as the \$36,000 now set for the Central American region. And, it is, of course, to the industry's benefit that Uncle Sam is picking up most of the bill.

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Petite bananas set for small success

A revolutionary fruit marketing campaign is being tested in the Pacific islands as part of a three-pronged effort to stimulate banana production.

Fruit Distributors Ltd of New Zealand marketed a trial shipment of small bananas from Tonga in late December.

Two containers of specially packed small bananas were intended to test the New Zealand market for a different style of fruit.

Marketed as "Petite Banana"

the fruit is under 14 centimetres long and half the weight of a conventional banana.

They come from the base of the bunch, said Fruit Distributors' marketing manager Mr Michael Daysh. "At the base of every bunch of bananas, there is always a certain number of small fruit," he said.

"Apart from their size, these bananas are of the same variety, flavour, colour and nutrient value as the full size fruit.

"Usually these are cut off, either before the fruit matures or before it is packed for the

market." The company thought there was a demand for smaller fruit, particularly from families with small children.

"So, in conjunction with the Tongan Commodities Board, we have been working on a separate identity for the 'Petite Banana.' We believe they will fill a market niche for novelty and size," said Daysh.

The development costs of the packaging and trial shipment have been borne by the Commodities Board and Fruit Distributors.

The second part of the plan,

announced by the company, is a profit sharing scheme for Tongan producers.

Under the new scheme the fruit will be bought, as before, at a guaranteed price negotiated annually by the board which will now also command a share of the profits from New Zealand sales.

"The scheme has been made possible by consistent improvement in the quality and delivery of Tongan bananas over the past 12 to 18 months," said Daysh.

"We have gone through a fairly lengthy development period with Tonga and we are now at a stage where our efforts are beginning to yield profits."

The profit sharing scheme, he said, was "a positive reflection of the good relationship we have enjoyed with the Commodities Board over many years."

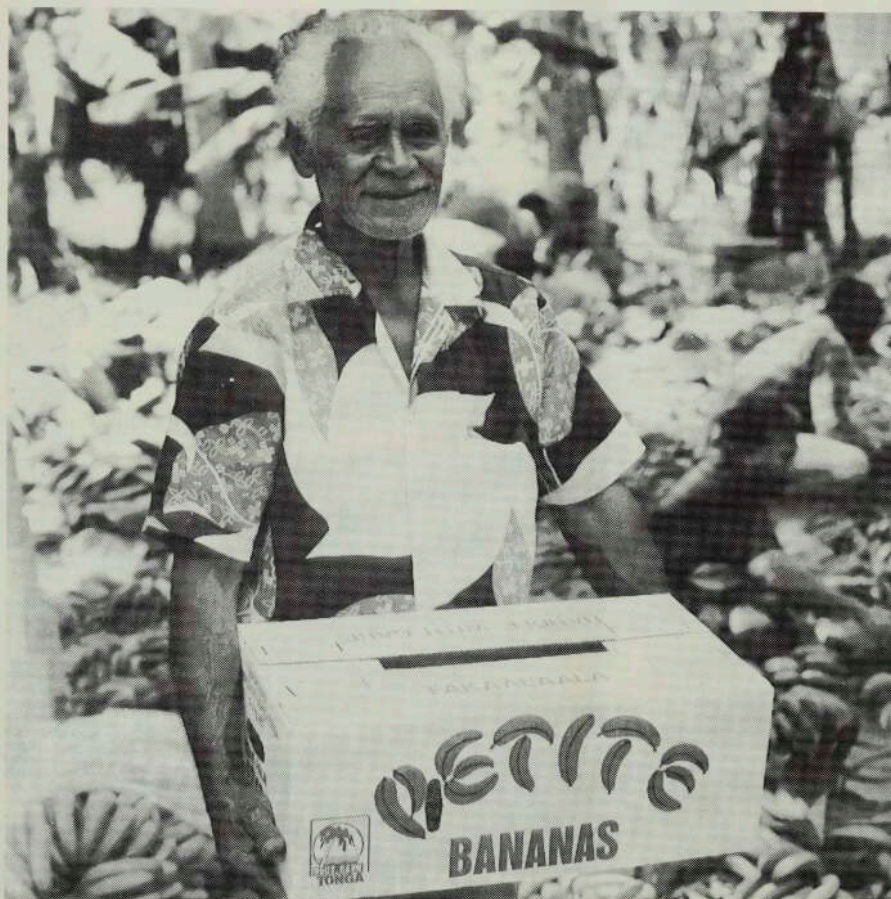
The third initiative is the development of an innovative computer monitoring scheme through which growers in the island nations are regularly given information on the quality of their fruit when it reaches New Zealand.

The scheme involved the writing of a "tailor made" software program in which fruit quality is scored by random sampling on nine separate counts.

The information is analysed and then returned by post to individual growers after being translated into their own languages.

Daysh said: "This will provide island growers with information which is available to few other commodity producers anywhere in the world — timely feed-back on the quality of the produce they have shipped.

"Over time we are confident that it will lead to considerable improvement in the quality of the fruit delivered."



The new product ready for market.

Bureaucracy's error is sugar windfall

As the region's relations with the US bore further strain with the widely held view that the Reagan administration would not sign the SPNFZ protocols and drastic cuts in import quotas, Fiji has quietly increased its sugar quota.

Fiji's allocation in the heavily protected US sugar market had been 12,012 tons last year.

This year, it will more than double to 25,190 tons. At the same time the Australian quota was slashed from 142,428 to 75,000 tons while that of PNG fell from 12,500 tons to 7,500 tons.

Fiji's increased quota is the Washington bureaucracy's way of admitting mistakes over the previous years in fixing amounts.

Officials who set quotas had been in error over the years in fixing the Fiji tonnage below planned levels.

This year, they have corrected the mistakes with Fiji being granted an extra 17,000 tons.

That's a US\$3.4 million error — small potatoes in Washington but a welcome correction in Suva.

The world price of sugar is in the 5.5 to 7.5 cents per pound range depending on delivery date.

The subsidy price in the States, demanded by US producers of cane and beet sugar, is about 18 to 20 cents.

So, after the costs of shipping and import duties, a foreign producer such as Fiji profits at the rate of about ten cents per pound by being included in the quota.

Thus, 17,000 tons represents about \$3.4 million.

The Australian and PNG quotas were cut by about 40 per cent. The PNG quota of 7,500 represents the absolute rock bottom allocation for the smallest of the producers, just

as 12,000 tons had been the lowest allocation available last year.

The PNG allocation still represents about \$1.5 million.

However this is still a 30 per cent reduction in the quota and will mean that foreign exchange earnings from PNG's developing Ramu Sugar Ltd will

drop from A\$6.4 million to A\$4.8 million.

Ramu general manager Mr Brian Dyer said he was disappointed at the cut but pleased that, at least, PNG had retained a quota.

But, he said, there was no need for Ramu Sugar to feel aggrieved as the quota was

government to government.

Meanwhile the company was well ahead with an ambitious replanting program, he said, after a mystery disease destroyed a large part of the Ramu crop.

Mr Dyer said the company hoped to be back to full production next year.

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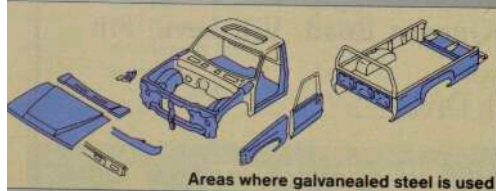
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Visa-free tourism effort makes ground in Washington

Guam's effort to promote visa-free tourism from Asia (PIM, January page 9) is inching ahead in Washington as part of the territory's continuing drive to control more of its immigration policy.

Congress has twice passed legislation sought by the island to create a visa waiver for Guam-bound tourists and until recently the mainland Immigration and Naturalisation Service

(INS) has dragged its feet regarding implementation.

INS worries about illegal aliens and undefined "security concerns". The Governor's office and Guam Congressman Ben Blaz think in terms of more tourists.

INS has now drafted regulations which would, at some time in the near future, allow 15-day visits without visas from a dozen sources: Australia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan,

Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Solomon Islands, United Kingdom, Vanuatu and Western Samoa.

The problem is that the list excludes three nations of strong interest to Guam — The Philippines, South Korea and Taiwan.

INS worries too that many visa applications are denied in those countries and that to give residents the right to visit Guam without visas would simply lead to problems of immigration control.

Congress, in passing the legislation, spoke about granting visa waivers to nations where the visa refusal rate was at or below 16 per cent.

However, the refusal rate in Taiwan and South Korea has moved up to 25 per cent while that of the Philippines is over 40 per cent. There is some talk in Washington that INS will add South Korea to the final list as a result of pressure from Guam.

Actual implementation of the scheme will be delayed until INS and Guam can work out who will pay for the program and until a new computerised

exit-entry control system can be set in motion. Australia and Fiji both have such systems, but the US and Guam do not.

The list of 12 nations proposed for the visa-waiver program contains few goodies for Guam except Hong Kong.

The bulk of Guam's tourist arrivals originate in Japan (Guam is the traditional place for Japanese honeymoons) but Japanese have no trouble obtaining visas.

The other nations on the proposed list are distant from Guam, are generally not on direct air routes and in many cases (e.g. Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Western Samoa) are more noted for receiving tourists than for sending them to distant destinations.

On another front Guam's voters will decide in April on a proposed Guam Commonwealth Act — an island wish list which includes territorial control of immigration.

The Act, however, will be subject to extensive Congressional review and probably revision. — David S. North in Washington.

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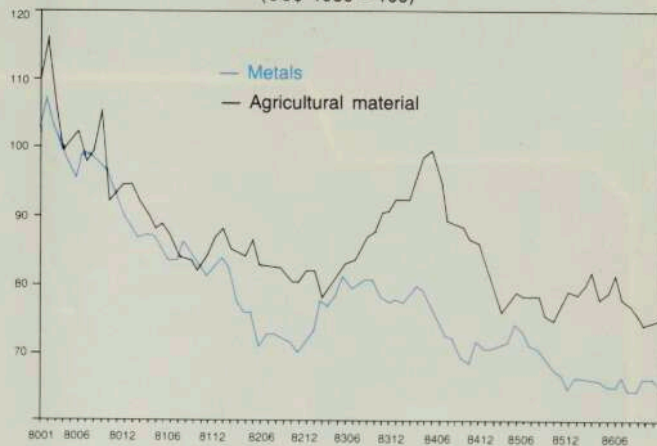
Indicators

COMMODITIES

	Jan. 9, '87	Dec. 9, '86	Jan. 9, '86
Gold (USD/oz) (Comex spot)	403.30	390.30	338.30
Silver (USD/oz) (spot)	5.40	5.30	6.12
Copper (USD/lb) (wirebar seller)	67.25	66.56	72.00
Cocoa (USD/tonne)	1858.00	1807.00	2189.00
Coffee (US\$/lb) (spot)	132.90	138.75	261.86
Copra (USD/tonne)	250.00	265.00	260.00
Rubber (US\$/lb) (spot)	45.00	45.00	40.25
Sugar (US\$/lb) (spot)	5.27	6.30	5.60
Palm Oil (USD/tonne)	325.00	310.00	342.00

WORLD COMMODITIES

(US\$ 1980 = 100)

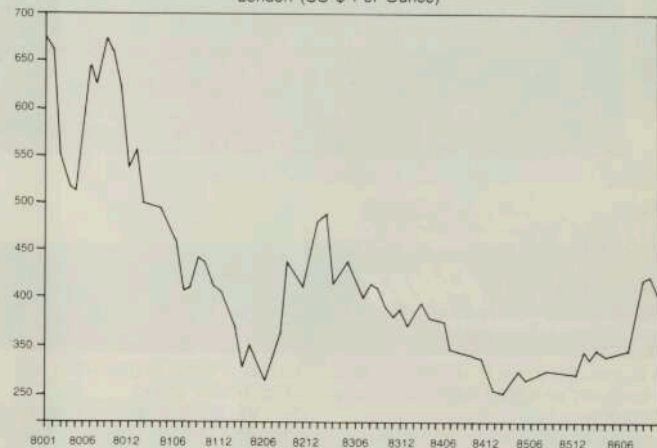


CURRENCIES

USD BUYS	Jan. 9, '87	Dec. 9, '86	Jan. 9, '86
Australia dollar	1.5053	1.5370	1.4077
New Zealand dollar	1.8639	1.9781	1.9864
Fiji dollar	1.1374	1.1635	1.1150
New Caledonia and F. Poly franc	115.6974	119.70	137.63
PNG kina	0.9551	0.9745	1.0080
Solomon Is. dollar	1.9000	1.9680	1.6166
Tonga pa'anga	1.53	na	na
Vanuatu vatu	115.25	118.04	100.39
Western Samoa tala	0.4470	0.4418	0.4362

GOLD

London (US \$ Per Ounce)



INDUSTRIAL WORLD DEMAND

Industrial output (per cent change)

		latest month	previous month	year on
USA	(Nov)	+ 0.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.6
Japan	(Nov)	- 1.5	- 1.9	- 2.1
W. Germany	(Nov)	+ 0.8	+ 1.0	+ 1.3
France	(Sept)	0.0	0.0	+ 2.0
UK	(Oct)	+ 0.8	- 0.3	+ 1.4
Italy	(Aug)	- 9.2	+ 4.5	- 3.0
Canada	(Sept)	- 0.5	+ 1.5	- 3.5
Switzerland	(Q2)	+ 11.0	- 12.0	+ 7.0
Netherlands	(Oct)	- 3.7	+ 2.8	+ 1.0
Belgium	(Aug)	+ 20.6	+ 24.1	+ 6.7
TOTAL OECD	(Aug)	- 0.4	+ 0.5	+ 1.0



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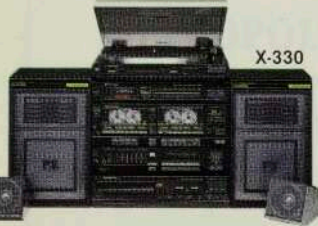
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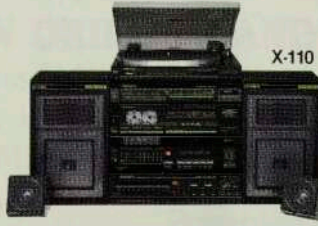
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Farmers field investment famine

Though small industry and manufacturing are receiving a lot of attention, agriculture remains the economic lifeblood of Tonga between 1975 and 1984, agriculture accounted for at least 80 per cent of the kingdom's total exports. In six of those seven years, it was at least 90 per cent. Nine of every 10 households were engaged in some form of farming activity in 1979.

However, the sector's growth has slowed. In real terms, export income has declined in the past five years. That is no news to agricultural officials who acknowledge a transfusion is needed to pump life into this vital sector.

There is no clear consensus in government circles of the right path to follow. The Government of Tonga has attempted to boost agricultural production by establishing a more modern infrastructure with the multi-million dollar wharf complex and improved shipping links.

However, Sebastian Hurrell, director of The Commodities Board, which exports most of the Kingdom's agricultural produce says this may be putting the cart before the horse.

"More resources should be injected into the productive sectors of the economy. It's important to diversify as we have been doing, but the trend seems to be away from agricultural investment. Enterprising farmers should be given all the encouragement possible," he said.

Dr Kevin Makin, who worked as agricultural economist with the Central Planning Department, said that while agriculture contributed 49 per cent of the gross national product in 1984, it received less than 10 per cent of the gross capital investment.

In 1979, a South Pacific Agricultural Survey funded by the Asian Development Bank recommended increased crop production on the main island of Tongatapu aimed at export markets. Such a system would include large and small growers producing on contract for a central marketing and processing organisation.

The report's authors viewed such a development as essential because the larger holdings would provide a more

The shift from subsistence to commercial agriculture is never easy. But for small island nations, it is seen as a necessity for progress. MIKE LANE in Nuku'alofa has looked at the Tongan experience which may hold lessons for other island states travelling the same road.

stable base of production not normally found on smaller farms.

Aleki Sisifa, acting Director of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forests, said that some growers are already beginning to cultivate large acreages that balance the smaller farms.

However, Tonga still relies on a smallholder system with coconut as the centrepiece for the foreseeable future. Agriculture officials have been frus-



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trated by their inability to devise a strategy that improves nut production while allowing farmers to make better use of the land under coconuts.

"We consider coconut a priority crop, but we don't want to put too many resources into its development," Sisifa said, "that is in relation to other crops."

Because of the great swings in coconut prices, the ministry wants to hedge its bet. That contrasts with other governments in the region that have invested substantial sums in coconut research and development.

Bananas, vanilla, coffee, ginger, black pepper and cocoa are compatible with coconut cultivation. However, only bananas and vanilla have been cultivated extensively beyond the research level.

Ministry officials maintain that these intercrops should enhance nut produc-

tion and also improve the income of farmers tending the coconut groves. These palms suffer from both neglect and abuse. Farmers burn them when clearing land or plough them under when preparing to plant a crop.

Smallholder commercial farming can succeed as demonstrated by the sugar cane industry in Fiji and to a lesser degree banana and vanilla farming in Tonga. However, there is room for improvement.

To help this sector, a farming systems research project funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research is currently underway in Tonga. By collecting data from the three main island groups, ministry officials hope to answer questions about land use, cropping patterns and costs of production that will improve future planning.

The shifting cultivation, multi-crop Tongan system is based on the premise that people can grow enough to feed themselves and sell the surplus. However, traditional subsistence is being squeezed by the attractions of cash cropping and increased demand for land.

This situation has reached a near critical level on Tongatapu because of the influx of people from the outer islands. As the pressure for land has increased, the fallow period has decreased.

Subsistence agriculture falters when there is not enough land for fallows of necessary length or fertilizers are not added. Without either of these components, the fertility of the soil suffers.

The people moving to Tongatapu are the new poor. Without easy access to land, their salary is barely enough to buy food for the family.



Tongan planters spread their copra for sale.

Many farmers are making the switch to commercial farming. Siua Sekona is one man who has embraced modern technology and new methods of farming. He exports bananas and root crops, farms 40 acres and was selected the top yam grower at the 1986 Tongatapu Agricultural Show.

"What used to take a week using traditional methods can now be done in a day," he said. He clears his land with a bulldozer and uses a tractor to plough, disc and ridge his fields.

This farmer doesn't leave much to chance. He ensures good yields by ploughing about 30 per cent of his annual income into land preparation, application of fertiliser and weed control.

However, imports continue to grow as does Tonga's trade deficit which can be attributed partially to currency fluctuation. The pa'anga, Tonga's unit of currency, is tied to the Australian dollar.

The Kingdom's trade deficit for January last year was \$5.7 million, an increase of 24 per cent according to figures released by the Department of Statistics. Goods and services amounted to \$6.3 million compared with \$600,000 for exports and re-exports.

Bananas were the leading export

earner for the quarter with \$180,000. Coconut oil was second at \$132,000.

This is typical for countries making a transition from subsistence agriculture to a more balanced and diversified economy.

Livestock products account for about half of Tonga's total food imports. Low-cost production of meat from ruminants such as goats is the best opportunity for development, said Dr Malik Hussain, who directs a regional FAO livestock program headquartered in Nuku'alofa.

Hussain said Tonga could be self-sufficient in meat production provided that feed is produced locally. Though it is probably impossible to substitute for cheap mutton flaps, he said Tonga could produce a high quality beef and pork to substitute for imported protein.

Constraints to self-sufficiency are lack of husbandry know-how, and the demand for suckling pig in the social customs. These animals are killed when they are only one fifth of mature size. Breeding females are also frequently slaughtered thus limiting potential production.

Though more emphasis is being placed on exports, there is competition within the region for all of Tonga's main commodities — coconut products, bananas and vanilla.

Others have been hurt by quarantine problems. Watermelons, which earned as much as \$500,000 in the past, were banned from New Zealand in November, 1985, because of fruit fly infestation. Officials said the ban may be lifted by the middle of this year.

Tongan farmers complicate the situation by their approach to commercial farming. S. Deacon Ritterbusch, a fellow at the East-West Centre in Hawaii, offered the following comment in her thesis entitled "Entrepreneurship and Business Venture Development in the Kingdom of Tonga."

She said "... Farmers should be taught to be better managers so they don't rush into any kind of commercial farming operation in which they have no knowledge of marketing, crop production or financial backing.

"Instead, they all just rush into any kind of crop production once they see other farmers making money at it. Often the quality of food they produce is poor, but it still takes up precious space on planes or ships and floods Talamahu Market thus lowering the price for everyone."

Fred Sevele, former head of the Commodities Board and an economist with the South Pacific Commission, said Tonga needs to be selective in how it uses its resources.

"Agriculture would be better served by concentrating on certain commodities both for import substitution and exports and on identifying and assisting enterprising and productive farmers who could be depended on to provide much of the production required for both domestic consumption and export," he said.

Agricultural leaders are pinning big hopes on agro-based industries embodied by Golden Passions Tonga (Ltd.), a company that processes passionfruit and other tree crops. The Commodities Board is considering adding several products to its line and another venture is being pondered.

Within the next decade, Sisifa said, Tongan farmers should be able to meet the challenges of markets in Hawaii and North America provided shipping links hold together, and quarantine regulations can be met.

He said coffee, black pepper and kava should all develop a niche in the export trade.

But unless a series of agricultural incentives and better access to marketing information is distributed to farmers and government allocates more resources to this sector, agriculture may never realise a potential that is this country's greatest national resource.



Tongan yams — still an important crop.

THE VIEW FROM TOKYO

from page 26

Australia's expense, and agreed to discuss the next beef quota earlier than planned, the concessions did not go as far as Australia had hoped although they did steer the meeting's close away from a near disaster.

Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden said in a short closing statement after the talks that Australian experience in the South Pacific was largely a result of learning from past mistakes, implying that the Japanese could follow this path in developing their new aid initiatives.

While his Japanese counterpart described Japan and Australia as "forming a north-south axis in the Asia-Pacific region" with "shared values of democracy and free trade", Mr Hayden was more restrained, noting that as Western countries the two "accordingly had shared objectives".

Differences between the two countries will be given a further airing when Mr Hayden visits Japan before the middle of the year.

Referring to fisheries agreements between the Soviet Union and Pacific island states Mr Kuranari said this "did not necessarily constitute a threat"

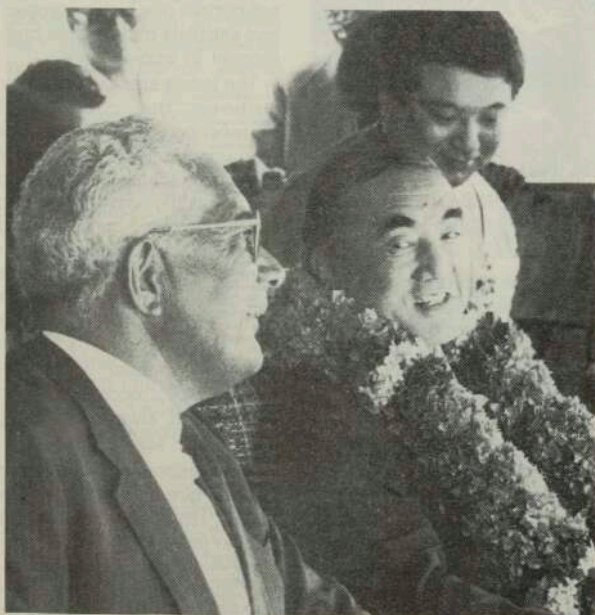
but that he thought it was important for these nations not to be affected by international tensions.

Mr Hayden pointed out that Japan already had a South Pacific presence, referring to the major harbour installations begun in Kiribati last year by Japan. He added that Australia had already helped Japan to play a greater role in the region with the suggestion that Papua New Guinea seek more Japanese aid after Australia cut its aid budget last year.

Australia is to give an extra \$16 million in aid to the South Pacific this year, of which \$8 million will be put into a trust fund for Tuvalu, to be matched, it is hoped, by the UK and New Zealand, with the remainder to be spent on development projects in the region.

Mr Hayden said: "What we talked about was the need for countries of the region to be able to conduct their economic development successfully where it was appropriate with aid from both of us."

Mr Kuranari had taken pains to stress at all times the independence of the sovereign states of the region, Mr Hayden said.



Japan's prime minister Mr Nakasone meets Ratu Mara during his 1985 South Pacific tour.

PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—FEBRUARY, 1987

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Isles of illusion: A gentleman's rude awakening

"Asterisk": Isles of Illusion: Letters from the South Seas: edited by Bohun Lynch with a new introduction by Gavin Young. 334 pp. Century Hutchinson, 1986. £5.95. 0 7126 9468 4.

The Santo rebellion of 1980 attracted world-wide media coverage, bringing Vanuatu to the attention of countless people who had never heard of that archipelago, or, in the words of the rebellion's historian, John Besant, * of the "Siamese-twin" system of colonial government which the Anglo-French Condominium of the New Hebrides conferred on the indigenous Melanesians in 1906.

Of islands which attracted successively whalers, sandalwooders, "blackbirders" and finally traders and settler-planters, two Englishmen familiar with conditions in the early days of the Condominium have left lively records.

Edward Jacomb's "France and England in the New Hebrides" (1914) and his play "The Joy Court" (1929) have never been reprinted but the republication of the letters of his friend, R. J. Fletcher provides a welcome opportunity to recapture the atmosphere of those early days.

The travel writer James Norman Hall predicted in 1929 that "Isles of Illusion", an "extraordinarily human" book sucked under and lost in the ever-increasing stream of books, would reappear further down the stream.

The first reissue in English for nearly sixty years of the 1920s



A skirmish between seamen and marines of HMSS Curacao and the villagers at Port Resolution, August 12, 1865 — from a sketch by Midshipman W. V. Bailey

best seller rewardingly fulfills Hall's prophecy. When these very readable letters were originally published by Constable in 1923, Lynch's South Seas correspondent, a friend from Oxford days, was identified merely as "Asterisk".

"Asterisk" was later revealed to be R. J. Fletcher (1877-1965), a paternal uncle of the novelist Penelope Mortimer whose autobiography "About Time" (1979) offers a shrewd, sympathetic pen-portrait of her eccentric relative.

Fletcher started adult life as a schoolmaster but soon sought

to escape civilisation and convention in exotic places. Fired with enthusiasm by the writings of R. L. Stevenson, he sailed in due course from South America to the "land of the lotus" in the South Seas.

He spent seven years in the New Hebrides, working variously as court interpreter, land surveyor and, principally, as coconut plantation manager. Most of the letters selected for publication by Lynch, himself a prolific author, were written to him in England from that archipelago. Fletcher finally extricated himself from the New

Hebrides in 1919 to spend happier days in the French Tuamotu islands near Tahiti.

The leitmotiv of "Isles of Illusion" is, as the title suggests, disillusionment: "No one could have been more sentimental than I in my quest of lovely tropical nature" ... "three weeks sufficed to show me what a fool I was" ... "keep your distance and you will keep your enchantment" ... "I have paid in hardish coin for dallying with the lotus plant ..."

Fletcher, while examining acerbically external realities, chronicles the interior self and the principal value of "Isles of Illusion" arguably lies in its self-portrait of a highly complex and articulate middle-class Englishman in tropical exile.

The letters are, to quote their author, "the confidential whimpering of a loquacious man condemned to months of intolerable silence", trapped in an unhealthy environment in which Fletcher, sensitive and cultured, lacked congenial companionship and sought solace in a native woman by whom he had a son (the liaison provides the theme for his autobiographical novel "Gone Native" 1924, occasionally in whisky and always in writing letters, his "safety valve").

He memorably conjures the physical lure and rigours of the islands. His observations on the human fauna of the New Hebrides — officials, traders, planters, missionaries, the indigenous Melanesians — are as caustic as his examination of himself is frank.

A man of his time, he profes-

ses no love for the Christianised, as opposed to heathen, "Kanakas". Yet he doctors his Melanesian charges as conscientiously as any of the Presbyterian missionaries who, with Australian settlers and Condominium officials, are among the prime targets of his mordant wit.

Edward Jacomb's brother Charles, the author of "God's Own Country: An Appreciation of Australia" (1914) and as sharp a critic of Australia and Australians as Fletcher himself, described him as a "brilliantly clever fellow."

A former pupil has recalled him as a "mysterious personality" . . . "almost frightening to us school-boys, but patient, unbiased and kind," a fellow schoolmaster remembers him as a "brilliant individualist" but was never able to penetrate beyond Fletcher's "rotund facade."

Penelope Mortimer says he was cynical, sharp and clever with a waspish wit and a disdain for women. But she liked him.

These first-hand observations, which supplement Lynch's comments in the original introduction, are suggestive of the complexities and paradoxes of Fletcher's highly elusive character. He appears, very humanly, full of contradictions — amusing and fond of provoking laughter in others but often sad and consistently mysterious, hard to get to know. Sensitive to beauty in poetry and landscape, even tender, but capable of brutality. Conventional by upbringing but usually unconventional and often eccentric in thought and action.

A misfit, Fletcher fails to reach his goals or to achieve equanimity. He eventually returned to a bachelor schoolmaster's life in England, where John Murray published three of his "Gilbert Davison" thrillers at the beginning of the 1930s.

Fletcher then lapsed into obscurity. From teaching in Cornwall, he retired to live with a sister in Kent, where he described himself, in a letter to Penelope Mortimer in 1957, as "intangibly alone mentally."

Gavin Young chanced upon "Isles of Illusion" in Hong Kong

and took the volume with him when he sailed a few years ago from China to the South Seas: it inspired the title of Part Two of his "Slow Boats Home".

In his very personal introduction to the reissue, Young establishes a link with "Asterisk" via Bude, where Fletcher taught and the youthful Young spent his summer holidays.

It is to be hoped that a future edition of "Isles of Illusion" will include Fletcher's as yet unpublished contemporary letters to Edward Jacomb, who appears

as "Mowbray" in the book.

Fletcher's letters to Lynch are better known in France, where a new French translation of them appeared in 1979 under the impulsion of the celebrated autobiographer Michel Leiris whose intimate diary of an ethnographic expedition through Africa ("L'Afrique Fantôme", 1934) was influenced by the original 1926 translation.

Leiris was himself introduced to "Isles of Illusion" by his surrealist companion, Jacques Prevert, and in turn, decades

later, inspired the fine preface to the 1979 translation contributed by his young friend at the Musée de l'Homme, Jean Jamin. A German translation of the new French edition appeared in 1981.

Fletcher was an interesting man and his letters, his best writing, deserve to be read again. — W. E. Stober.

★ *"The Santo Rebellion: An Imperial Reckoning"* published by the University of Hawaii Press and Heinemann (Australia), 1984.

How the leaders declined to decide

Constitutionalism in Micronesia: By Norman Meller. Published 1985 by Institute for Polynesian Studies, Brigham Young University-Hawaii Campus, Laie, Hawaii. ISBN 0-939154-390. 396 Pp.

Meller's account of the 1975 Constitutional Convention of Micronesia is a personal memoir of the constitutional-making process set within an island context.

This process marked an important step in the dissolution of the American-administered United Nations Trusteeship which existed for nearly forty years.

American emphasis on political egalitarianism stood in sharp contrast to the hierarchical nature of most Micronesian societies. Unlike the decolonising process experienced in other Pacific islands, the delegates to the Constitutional Convention "had no comparable opportunity . . . for making choices between alternative systems of government other than the paradigm already provided under the American administration."

Once the alternative to independence was decided upon by the islanders themselves, "all parties accepted the premise that the Micronesians would write their own constitution," though the United States would

finance a major share of the convention itself.

The primary purpose of the convention was to draft a constitution for the future government of Micronesia which would "guarantee to all the citizens of Micronesia a form of government which permits the free democratic expression of their views."

Such an auspicious task notwithstanding, the enabling legislation enacted by the Congress of Micronesia mandated that ninety days be allocated for the convention to complete its work. In Meller's estimate, "it was feared that without a fixed term, the Convention would be under no pressure to reach any consensus."

The method of electing the delegates was curious, yet the composition of the convention itself reflected both public and private sector interests with a diversity of opinion among the various island delegations.

There was little doubt, however, that the "political socialisation" of the delegates to the American principles of would have its effect in the production of a "unique all-Micronesian constitution." The question as to whether the formalistic structure and procedures of the convention with its subject matter committees would be compatible with the "characteristic informality of

Micronesian ways" proved to be illusory.

Indeed, Meller's concern as an experienced consultant was that "Micronesians do not take any congeniality to the making of hard, conceptual decisions." Instead they are most apt to avoid them whenever possible, "to temporise, and only when absolutely necessary, to respond with definitive action."

The Palauan delegation, in Meller's opinion, was the most demanding. At the outset, the Palauans presented to the convention a series of proposals that amounted to a virtual ultimatum.

The reality of Palauan posturing was that the other delegates "mutually encouraged each other to rely moderately when the Palauans resorted to their intemperate address." Such group strategies were a clear response to the fact that "all were dependant upon developing consensus" within the decision-making process so as to assure positive convention reception of such proposals.

Substantive issues focussed on whether the of the islands should be centralised or decentralised in both authority and in revenue-raising power. Eminent domain and alien ownership of land were, likewise, of paramount concern to the convention.

The absence of "radical

ideology" which would invoke revolutionary changes in rule was conspicuously absent. To the contrary, the status of traditional leaders under the proposed constitution seemed to elude a satisfactory solution.

In the words of one future Ponapaen title holder "some of us are born to rule and some of us are born to serve." At the outset, it was decided that it was not proper for the convention to decide what role and position the chiefs should have in the future government.

At the same time, however, it was felt that any future constitution with any sense of legitimacy could not omit any mention of traditional leadership or the place of custom.

Though these important questions were consigned to the chiefs themselves, the matter was "temporised" until the convention could wait no longer.

In the lengthiest committee

proposal and report, the collective wisdom of the convention's delegates consigned the matter to each of the respective district constituencies to decide the matter with the proviso that some provision be made for "an active, functioning role for the traditional leaders within local government."

In the end, full discretion on the formal accommodation of the chiefs and custom was left for the people themselves to decide. Consequently, the convention preserved the legitimacy of the constitutional process without having to confront the conservative forces of traditionalism.

In spite of all the foreseen and unforeseen obstacles to consensus, the ratification of the Micronesian constitution became a reality. If nothing else, the tedium of such a process is revealing in both the content and style of the author's narrative. — William Tagupa.



EYES of FIRE

THE LAST VOYAGE
OF THE
RAINBOW WARRIOR

David Robie

Last voyage of the publicity pirates

Eyes of Fire: the last voyage of the Rainbow Warrior. By David Robie. Foreword by Walter Lini. Published by Lindon Publishing, New Zealand.

In *Eyes of Fire* written to commemorate the last voyage of the *Rainbow Warrior* which French secret service agents sank in Auckland harbour on the night of July 10, 1985, the author finds himself fully in agreement with Greenpeace principles.

Indeed he goes beyond the strict limits of Greenpeace's concern with ecological dangers to life to come out strongly in support of Kanak independence in New Caledonia.

The book also covers the history of Greenpeace campaigns and presents a case for a nuclear-free, independent South Pacific.

The *Warrior* set out on its last voyage from Florida, U.S.A., in March, 1985, with two purposes. Firstly, to resume the protests of the 1970s against

nuclear testing in French Polynesia and, secondly, to draw world attention to the legacy of ill-health of the people of Rongelap Atoll in the Marshall Islands from the fallout of American nuclear testing 150 km away at Bikini in 1954.

The itinerary included a visit to Vanuatu where Prime Minister Lini came out on a government vessel with most of the members of his cabinet to escort the vessel into harbour.

In a foreword to the book, Walter Lini succinctly expresses Robie's central idea: in order to bring nuclear testing in the Pacific to an end French and American colonial outposts of the region must be liberated. To this end the governments of countries of the South Pacific should work closely with non-government organisations, such as Greenpeace.

Robie's vivacious style of reporting makes events of the 11 weeks which he spent aboard the *Warrior* come strongly to life. This style remains virtually

unchanged when he tells the story of Greenpeace campaigns which he did not personally witness.

When Greenpeace officials first came upon the *Warrior* at the East India docks in London on 1977, the ship was a heap of rust.

Three months of gruelling work by an army of well-qualified volunteers transformed her into a proud campaign ship. Though the wheelhouse was, according to Robie, lumpy and unattractive, the rest of the vessel was appealing with a high North Sea bow, a graceful sheer line and a round-the-corner stern.

After a trial campaign run against the construction of a nuclear reactor in Scotland, serious business began in June, 1978 when the *Warrior* set out to challenge the Icelandic whaling fleet.

Scuffles with Spanish, Peruvian and Soviet authorities were everyday fare for Greenpeace. None matched the

brutality of the encounters with French agents.

There are fascinating overtones of piracy in Robie's accounts of Greenpeace adventures: their ships stalked their prey, lay in wait for whaling fleets, bearded authorities, and slipped out of port while under arrest.

The amazing feats of their 'zodiacs' were worthy of any swashbuckling buccaneer from the story books. However, their spoils were confined to obtaining publicity and in this, as Robie demonstrates, they have been fantastically successful.

It seems a wonder that the death of Fernando Pereira was the first to occur in any of the Greenpeace campaigns. It is a tribute to the discipline and seamanship of the movement.

As Robie shows, Greenpeace crews are activists rather than observers and thinkers. Debate tended to be limited to questions of strategy before a course of action was decided on: for example, would the voyage to

the Pacific take precedence over a campaign against oil spillage in the Persian Gulf?

Once a line of action was decided everyone was too busy to express doubts. On occasion crewmen could be surprisingly ready with their fists, but only in self-defence, as when some of the crew ran into a group of rowdies in a bistro in Jacksonville, Florida.

After sticking to their tasks through thick and thin, a wild party was often a popular way of winding down.

Greenpeace's evacuation of the entire population of Rongelap is one of the highlights of the book as it represented a new type of venture for the organisation, completely different from the symbolic evacuation which it had originally planned and with unknown consequences for the islanders.

Robie, who took part in the operation, conveys the uneasiness of Greenpeace leaders about the future of the 320 islanders who forsook their beautiful atoll to settle on a small island on the rim of Kwajalein Atoll, across the lagoon from the American missile range.

But the *Warrior* did the job well and then resumed its voyage.

It is possible that the author over-estimates the effectiveness of Greenpeace campaigns. While there is no doubt that governments have much to fear from the publicity that Greenpeace can generate, one suspects that the campaigns have not always been as determining a factor in provoking a change of government policy as Robie believes.

Evidence is available, for example, that the French government had decided to terminate atmospheric testing in Polynesia, long before the Greenpeace campaigns got under way in the 1970s—and, incidentally, before Australia and New Zealand took the case against France to the International Court of Justice.

Both these steps reflected world revulsion against the continuation of French atmospheric testing long after the superpowers had stopped. There is no doubt that this widespread feeling acted as a spur to the

French to switch to underground testing.

Robie's assessment of the problems that the nuclear policies of France and the United States cause the South Pacific tends to be simplistic.

His chapter, *The Nuclear Blackmailers*, would perhaps have been more effective if he had emphasised the differences between the defence policies of these powers.

Like Russia, the United

States is a super-power with territories bordering the Pacific and must be conceded legitimate defence interests within the region.

On the other hand, France's principal defence projects in the Pacific are part of a strategy which is entirely centred on the defence of Europe, and there is little justification for their presence in the Pacific. Robie's criticism of America and France would have been more tren-

chant if such differences had been borne in mind.

Notwithstanding such objections, David Robie's book is likely to become very popular reading among supporters of Greenpeace.

It should also fascinate readers interested in voyaging in the Pacific as well as contributing to the rapidly growing literature dealing with what the author calls the French 'blunder-watergate'. — *Barry Shineberg*.

A pleasant ramble through the shelves of Pacificana

Rifled Sanctuaries: some Views of the Pacific Islands in Western Literature. By Bill Pearson. Published 1984 by Auckland University Press and Oxford University Press, Auckland, New Zealand. ISBN 0 19 6480299. No price given.

Bill Pearson has long been the authority on relations between the European discoverers of Polynesia and the indigenous people.

He has now given us the first published survey of the effects on European literature of western contacts with the Pacific Islands, from the discovery of Tahiti in 1769 to Stevenson and Louis Becke; in effect doing for literature, though in outline only, what Bernard Smith did for art in his study on *European Vision and the South Seas*.

Furnas once wrote that "more thousands of words of swill have been written per square mile of dry land about the islands than about any other geographical entity" and Pearson admits that much of what he had to read was of slight literary value.

However he is not writing a critique but tracing the development of European ideas about, and consequent attitudes towards islanders and their societies after these had been transmuted by the contemporary cultural and intellectual preconceptions current in the western world.

To this end we are taken on a pleasant ramble through the shelves of Pacificana noting the main categories of Pacific au-

thors and discussing the effects of their publications on European and American thinking.

Starting with the discoverers Pearson moves on to consider the missionaries, the imposters who wrote part fictional part factual narratives, the writers of books for boys, the beachcombers and finally the novelists.

It is an interesting but not a comprehensive survey omitting, for example, the officials such as Pritchard, Trood and Romilly whose books followed those of the beachcombers; the women like Isabella Bird, Annie Brassey and C.F. Gordon Cummings, who had their own ideas on race relations; and the more than 25 books by naval commanders who, like Henry Byam Martin, often held racy rather than racist views about the islanders they met.

In a study of 82 pages omissions are inevitable. Still one would have liked to have read Pearson's conclusions on the alleged imposters John Coulter and Michelena y Rojas, whose veracity has only recently been questioned through the "higher criticism" to which Pacific writers are now being subjected; and on the novelist Charles Warren Stoddard, whom Stevenson considered to be the only author apart from Melville to have touched the South Seas with genius.

Perhaps few of his readers will disagree at Pearson awarding the palm for literary merit as the most accomplished writer in a not very gifted field to Melville, or to his conclusion that the categories of writers who showed the least bias in

their books were the discoverers and the beachcombers.

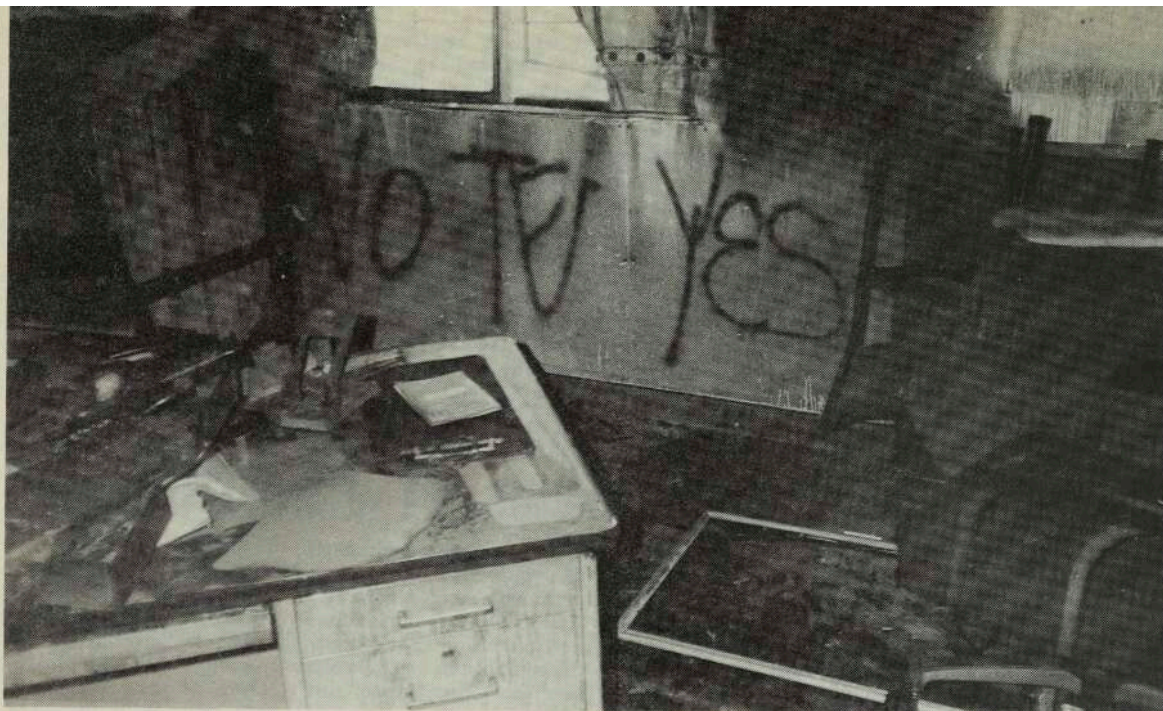
Probably the most serious distortion is found in the popular boys books of the nineteenth century, where the racial "myths of white supremacy" were inculcated in the immature minds of future imperialists.

Pearson cites Bowman's *The Island Home* and Ballantyne's *The Coral Island* as good examples but he quotes from several others and tells us that no less than 58 books of "imperialist fiction" had been published by 1923.

Pearson remembers many of these works being available in New Zealand school libraries when he was a boy. I certainly read several and later became convinced that some of the bizarre views on race relations which I heard in the islands between the two world wars could safely be blamed on their pernicious influence.

Fortunately I was saved by an incurable streak of romanticism to form my teenage dreams of the South Seas from maybe as fallible but less harmful books such as Viaud's *The Marriage of Loti* and Stackpole's *The Blue Lagoon*.

Pearson's study is a timely epitaph appearing in a decade when our perceptions of the Pacific islanders are becoming less dependent on the European observers than on the works emanating from the current literary renaissance among the Pacific islanders themselves, an event noted at the end of the book. — *Harry Maude*.



Inside the burned out OICC building. Political arson was the suspected motive.

Salii runs into referendum trouble

When voters of Palau failed for the fourth time to ratify a compact of free association with the United States, it was seen as a stunning political upset both for the US administration and for Palau president Lazarus Salii.

The latest poll — December 2 — was an important setback. The referendum results show that 65 per cent of the voters favoured the compact; 34 per cent were against.

The Supreme Court had earlier ruled that the compact required 75 per cent of the votes to overturn Palau's non-nuclear constitution.

However, the previous polls had showed a steady increase in the 'yes' vote with an accompanying decrease in the number of votes cast.

In contrast, at the last referendum, more voters went to the polls (nearly 80 per cent)

As Palau's voters again failed to muster the required majority to enable ratification of the Compact of Free Association with the United States, the tide may be turning against the government of President Salii. ED RAMPELL also reports that the latest vote has unleashed a number of unlikely allegations that have much wider implications.

and more said 'no'.

The significant drop in the 'yes' vote may indicate growing disenchantment with the Salii administration. Minister of State John Ngiraked (who was also election commissioner) said later that "internal politics" played an important role in the referendum.

"Voting against the 'Yes' group was an expression of dissent against the Salii administration," he said in an interview.

And Salii's government has been coming under increasing attack. After he certified the

compact as being ratified last February, Palau's paramount traditional leader, Ibedul High Chief Yutaka Gibbons, took the case to court over the 75 per cent rule.

Part of the Palau constitution states: "Harmful substances such as nuclear, chemical, gas or biological weapons intended for use in warfare, nuclear power plants and waste materials therefrom shall not be used, tested, stored or disposed of within the territorial jurisdiction of Palau without the express approval of not less than three fourths of the votes cast in

a referendum submitted on this specific question."

That effectively rules out the compact with its military provisions — and the court upheld the chief's case.

After that the painstakingly orchestrated consensus Salii had achieved in February — when most of the national leadership publicly endorsed the compact — began to erode.

As well as the compact impasse, Salii had inherited other pressing problems from his predecessor, Haruo Remeliik who was assassinated on June 30, 1985.

Chief among those is the Ipseco power project crisis (PIM, August p12), which has led to Palau's defaulting on its international debt.

Allegations of massive corruption have dogged the project — the latest of these have come from the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

and the House of Delegates in Palau.

The president's brother, Delegate Carlos Salii has been under investigation for allegedly accepting a US\$1.5 million bribe from the British power firm.

And the fact that TTPI High Commissioner Janet McCoy and President Reagan's personal representative to Micronesia, Ambassador Fred Zeder strongly supported the Ipseco project has led to speculation from the ACLU among others that the power plant proposal was a plan to bankrupt Palau in order to force ratification of the compact as a means of repaying the \$37 million debt.

The US military, the speculation goes, would then conveniently find an outsize power generator and fuel farm waiting for any future bases on TTPI's biggest island, Babeldaob.

By October national consensus was dead. A change in the Senate leadership which purged itself of officers and chairmen opposed to the compact infuriated many leaders and citizens.

Anonymous government employees distributed a letter condemning the administration for "Marcos style corruption." And allegations of electoral irregularities leading up to the December plebiscite clouded the issue.

The Palauan opposition and a 5-member delegation representing human rights groups from Australia, New Zealand, USA, Canada and the EC filed formal complaints with the UN observer mission (with representatives from the UK, France, Papua New Guinea and Fiji)

and the president.

The complaint claimed that the administration "violated the neutrality of the civil service, misused government funds and resources," and questioned the security of the ballot. All this, they alleged, had been done in an effort to secure enough 'Yes' votes for the compact to pass.

In particular, the government was condemned for closing the schools for 10 days and ordering teachers to campaign and vote for the compact. Presidential spokesman Bonifacio Basilius and Minister-Election Commissioner Ngriraked admit that government employees were told to campaign and vote for the compact.

Meanwhile, in the early morning of November 26, the Officer in Charge of Construction (OICC) office went up in flames. Inside the charred remains of the US Navy construction unit's quarters was scrawled graffiti such as: "Vote Yes Compact" along with "Vote For Government" as well as a number of obscenities.

Politically motivated arson was suspected.

After the referendum result became known, President Salii refused to comment on what the future might hold for Palau, but he has stated, in the Pacific Daily News, that without the compact, the nation faces tough times.

Others are more vocal. Ngriraked said: "Stringent measures of budgetary constraints will be taken to trim the government to fit the budget." (This year Palau is allocated only about \$10 million, while under the compact it would have received \$141 million)

He indicated that the admin-

istration was now likely to move to amend the nuclear free provision in the constitution. However, this would leave the government open to yet another legal challenge as it is not clear that the required plebiscite can be held before the next year's elections.

Meanwhile the war or words rages.

Senate President Joshua Koshiba: "Palau is going to hell ... Now we go to the Russians (to negotiate)."

Presidential assistant Joel Toribiong: Communism is better than this TT — toilet tissue

— government. Anything's better. You can quote me."

Governor Roman Tmetuchl (a former two-time presidential candidate whose relatives were convicted of the Remeliik assassination on what the ACLU believed to be flimsy evidence): "Independence is the ultimate goal of all people. We should not be ruled by anybody else. Anybody who doesn't think so should go to the hospital for a check up."

Like many compact critics they would prefer the term of the agreement to be reduced from 50 to 15 years

Lawyers cast doubt on court findings

The American Civil Liberties Union produced a disturbing and uneven report on the murder of President Remeliik and the subsequent trials of the three accused assassins.

The ACLU is an old liberal American institution run by lawyers who seek to ensure protection for unpopular and powerless minorities.

They stood up for blacks threatened by Ku Klux Klan lynch mobs in the thirties, objected to the forced relocation of the American Japanese population immediately after Pearl Harbor, defended the victims of the Joe McCarthy hysteria and, more recently, prevented a small town outside Chicago from outlawing a parade mounted by a handful of native-born American Nazis.

Their interest in events in Palau and their point of view on the trials fits with their mainland role and history.

The report is strongest where it casts doubt on the weight of evidence used to convict the three accused. Their point that the three are free on bail pending appeals against their convictions carries much weight on the mainland where people charged with shooting presidents tend to remain in jail even during the appeal process.

It is weaker when it seeks to draw larger conclusions, and it shows a lack of knowledge of island conditions and a perhaps over-generous faith in the abilities of their governments.

Their remarking on the fact that the three were tried without benefit of jury is such an example: trial by jury is an old Anglo-Saxon principle that has not spread to all of America's possessions or ex-possessions.

And many people will have to swallow hard at least a couple of times while reading the suggestion that the mainland government encouraged Palau's leaders into a too expensive power plant contract in order to bankrupt the island state so the US could keep it dependent on the flow of compact dollars.

The implied message is that island governments only make such mistakes and experience such temptations when encouraged by Uncle Sam. It does not show that the US interest in the islands as a military base, the murder and the power plant fiasco are necessarily linked. — from David S. North in Washington.

How they voted

Palau's four attempts to persuade the required 75 per cent of the populace to approve the compact have all failed.

On February 10, 1983 61 per cent (4,452) voted Yes; 37 per cent (2,175) said No. The turnout was 88 per cent.

On September 4, 1984: Yes: 66 per cent (4,290). No: 32 per cent (2,103). Turnout 71 per cent.

On February 21, 1986: Yes: 72 per cent (5,079). No: 27 per cent (1,957). Turnout 71 per cent.

On December 2, 1986. Yes 65 per cent (5,789). No: 34 per cent (2,986). Turnout 80 per cent.

Strikes reveal decision making confusion

The official line is that French Polynesia has been blessed with genuine and complete internal self government since September 1984. However, a chain reaction of labour disputes in the territory have once again shown that Paris still pulls the strings.

Finally, it fell to the Evangelical Church, to which 80 per cent of the Polynesian population belongs, to solve the argument.

The first to strike in early November last year were — unexpectedly — the smart UTA cabin crews. Their complaint was clearly spelled out on their posters in Tahitian, French and English: "UTA discriminates against Polynesians."

To those who cared to stop and listen, the strikers claimed that they receive lower salaries and fewer fringe benefits than their colleagues in France and New Caledonia for doing the same job. They were equally critical of the company's policy of hiring locals on a temporary basis.

The strike — which lasted one month — did not impress the company which repeated in the local media that there were plenty of Polynesians willing to take the jobs on the conditions rejected by the strikers — which was true.

But before the stewards and stewardesses abandoned their struggle, public attention had shifted to another group of workers — the much tougher and more loud-mouthed Papeete dockers.

Not only did they refuse to unload several cargo ships at the Motu Uta wharf, they also blocked the entrance to the harbour area, thus preventing previously unloaded goods from leaving the warehouses.

The spur for the strike was the decision — made in Paris — to permit the *Compagnie Gen-*

erale Maritime to set up its own Papeete stevedoring company instead of using a local company as had been done in the past.

The threatened company is the oldest of its kind in Tahiti, having been founded in 1924 by the famous Pacific boxing champion Jack Cowan who moved from Rarotonga to Tahiti shortly after World War One and married there.

For the past ten years the company, which also operates the Bounty shipping service between Tahiti and New Zealand, has been run by Cowan's grandson "Quito" Braun-Ortega, a territorial assembly member who since his 1985 election has been premier Gaston Flosse's most vocal critic (September PIM, page 23).

As a result of the Paris decision, "Quito" announced that he would be forced to lay off his 77 dockers. They went on strike.

And as the whole community from the tourism and building industries to the electricity company and the health department began to feel the pinch, the most surprising strike of all began.

The 700 Polynesians employed at the Moruroa test centre walked out over fears that they might lose their jobs as a result of the still unacknowledged but well advanced plans to shift the tests to the Kerguelen islands in the Indian Ocean.

They had already asked their boss, Admiral Thireaut for guarantees that, in such an event, they would be transferred to other government posts. When all he could offer was a promise of generous severance pay, the workers threatened to strike.

The prospect of strikers demonstrating at Moruroa displeased the high command so much that it decided to fly the

700 to Papeete to allow them to take part in a three-day strike rally there.

The authorities, meanwhile, were floundering. Premier Flosse — who is also an under secretary of state in the Chirac cabinet — was in charge, of course. But the maintenance of law and order is still in the hands of the French high commissioner who takes his orders from the minister for overseas territories in Paris.

And to further complicate things, only the admiral in charge at the test centre can negotiate with the Moruroa workers — and he takes his orders from the ministry of defence, also in Paris.

Flosse and the high commissioner agreed on one thing — they both stated that the decision to fly in the workers was unwise. At the same time they couldn't agree on whether police should be used to break the strikes — of which the docks dispute was becoming increasingly painful.

At the same time, the island's TV screens nightly showed French riot police battling with Paris students protesting at a government scheme to restrict university entrance.

The Papeete strikers feared a similar fate — especially when 90 *gendarmes mobiles* fully equipped with rifles, helmets, shields and gas grenades arrived from Paris, to be joined a few days later by a second contingent from New Caledonia.

The first rally — on December 9 — went off peacefully. But the calm was shattered the next morning when it was found that the strikers had barricaded the western entrance to Papeete during the night stopping all road traffic.

Whoever gave the order, the *gendarmes mobiles* were soon firing tear gas at the strikers



"Quito" Braun-Ortega

who, in turn, went in search of throwing stones.

The scene was set for an ugly confrontation.

But a professional man of peace now stepped in. The president of the Evangelical Church, Reverend Utia Marurai, who had been closely monitoring events and who had several times met with the strikers, called the high commissioner and asked him to withdraw the trigger-happy policemen.

When this had been done, he invited all parties to negotiations at the church HQ.

Face was saved all round. The high commissioner, the premier, the admiral, "Quito", the employers' association president and the union leaders were soon sitting at a table with Rev Marurai and church secretary John Doom.

After several days and nights a deal was struck that satisfied most of the workers' claims.

Until then, however, the French authorities had treated the strongly anti-nuclear and anti-colonial church as something close to a nest of traitors and had tried both bribery and intimidation to persuade the Polynesian clergy to shut up.

The settlement, then, was something of a victory for the church which may now play a more important role in French Polynesia — Marie Therese and Bengt Danielsson.

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SAMOA SOLOMON ISLANDS **Pacific stamp box** VANUATU With John Hunter

Yes another error in stamp designing. This time Norfolk Island. On December 14 Norfolk Island issued a 90c value of the Bi-Centenary of Governor Phillip's Commission. The wording was incorrect and should have read "Governor Phillip meeting the Home Secretary" and not Home Society.

A corrected version was issued on December 16 as the Philatelic Bureau considered the error needed correcting. AN INVESTMENT TIP — Collect the error as it was only issued for a short time to a limited few. Actually a very attractive collection can be made featuring the Bi-Centenary issues. Norfolk Island has issued a Bi-Centennial Log Book in which the issues can be housed.

Norfolk Island will, over the next year or two, issue a new Definitive Issue on Scenes of Norfolk Island.

Papua New Guinea has issued another Pre-Stamped Envelope. This PSE commemorates Christmas 1986 and features the legend of the Hibiscus. PNG has also issued two attractive Christmas Cards featuring Warkiki and the Sea Monster and How the Cooking Fire Came.

Meanwhile the attractive 1986 Year Album has been issued (the second album so far). Collectors would be advised to obtain one as 10,000 were printed and stocks are moving fast.

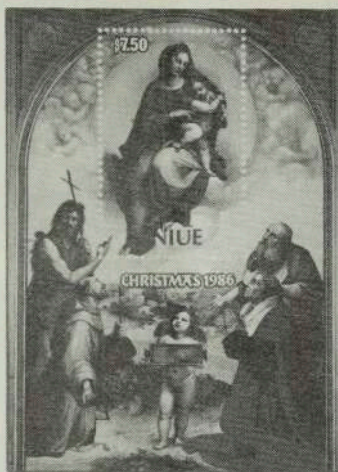
Micronesia issued a stamp to commemorate a significant event. On November 4 a 22c stamp was issued to commemorate the first Micronesian Passport.

Trouble brews for Tokelau. It appears the Stampex-Adelaide overprint on the 50c Tokelau stamp was done without the approval and knowledge of the New Zealand Postal authorities.

This slip adds further weight to the problems facing the New Zealand Post. The department is still under pressure over the escape of the mis-spelt Christmas issue and the donation of a block of four valuable Penny Claret Christchurch Exhibition 1906 stamps to raise funds for the 1990 international exhibition.

No doubt the Department will crack down on Tokelau who seemed to have taken philatelic matters into their own hands. (My thanks to the Australian Stamp Monthly for this item).

Pitcairn Islands relies heavily on the sale of postage stamps for its income. The island's recent paper reports on



falling stamps sales around the world. Careful to separate itself from those countries producing "labels" i.e. huge numbers of stamps not sold over post office counters but through mail order, the postal authorities report that only four issues a year are released and for only a limited period. All unsold stocks are burned.

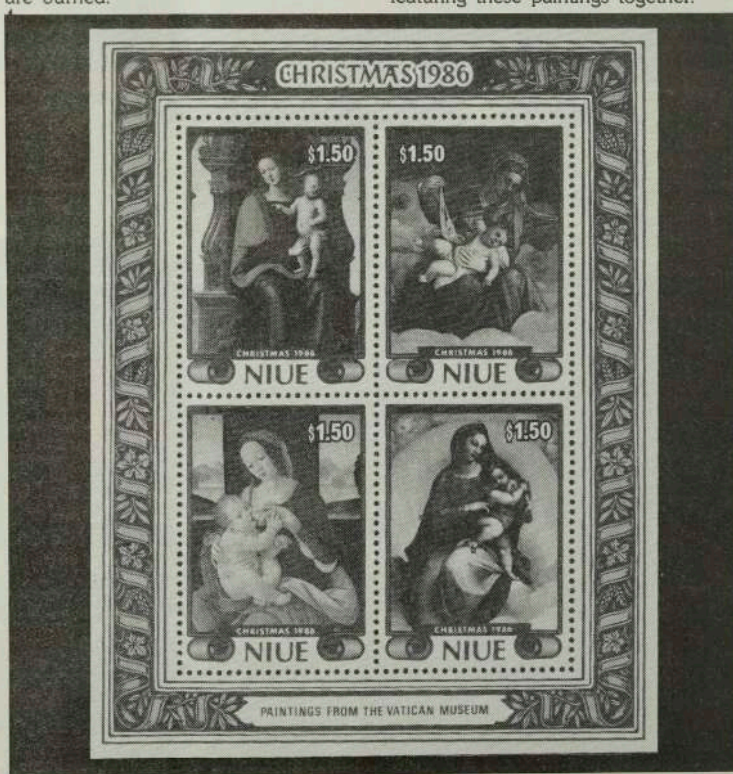
(You may remember a special stamp issue was released featuring a picture of the "stamp bum") Stamp destruction certificates are issued to show the value of stamps destroyed.

One example given was that of the Queen Elizabeth 2 60th Birthday issue in which NZ\$24,411.85 worth of stamps were destroyed. My thanks to John Carter for this item.

Pope John Paul II's visit to the South Pacific has been commemorated with overprints. Cook Islands overprinted a limited number of Christmas stamps on November 21 commemorating the Pope's first visit to the South Pacific.

Each stamp was overprinted with a surtax for the benefit of the charitable works of the various churches of the Cook Islands. The Cook Islands Christmas stamps featured "Virgin with Child" paintings by Peter Paul Rubens.

Niue issued its Christmas set of stamps on November 14. A set of four stamps was issued featuring four 16th Century paintings of the Virgin and Child presently in the Vatican Museum. Two miniature sheets were also issued featuring these paintings together.



transitions

Appointed: New director of programs for the South Pacific Commission, **Jon Jonassen**.

Jonassen, the Cook Islands foreign secretary, was the unanimous choice of the South Pacific Conference. He will be released for three years by the Cook Islands foreign affairs department in order to take up the post.

Foreign affairs minister **Mr Norman George** said it was a proud moment for the Cook Islands and for himself as Jonassen's minister.

Jonassen replaces fellow Cook Islander **Tamaril Pierre**. **Appointed:** Commercial-executive adviser to the Kiribati Public Utilities Board, **Mr K. M. Blanch**.

Aged 40, Blanch has 24 years of experience in the Australian public service and was most recently chief executive of a large New South Wales local government authority.

His appointment is aimed at improving the authority's accounting and management functions.

The board's general manager **Mr Nataara T Biribo**, said he was pleased with the appointment and that Blanch's experience would be of great benefit to the board. The appointment is funded by ADAB.

Chosen: For overseas training, PIACC computer operator, **Mrs Karen Oakley**.

Mrs Oakley, who joined PIACC last October soon after the secretariat was established

in Suva, attended a two week course in Bangkok which focused on computerised trade information systems and data base management for chambers of commerce.

PIACC chief executive, **Mr Ray Dunstan** said the course was especially relevant as the association had recently taken delivery of \$12,000 worth of computer equipment for the Pacific Islands Trade Information Service.

The computer was donated by the US Agency for International Development.



Mr K.M. Blanch

Appointed: Chief marketing executive of Aussat Pty Ltd, **Mr Colin Campbell**.

He will be responsible for the company's marketing strategy and sales operations.

Elected: New Solomon Islands prime minister, **Ezekiel Alebua**, 40, of Haimatua Village, Avu Avu in Guadalcanal Province.

A former deputy prime minister and MP for East Guadalca-

nal, he is also a member of the United Party.

He was elected at the third secret ballot of MPs following the resignation of **Sir Peter Kenilorea** (December PIM page 6), finally defeating his nearest rival **Mr Dennis Lulei** the independent MP for West Isabel, by 19 votes to 17.

Sir Peter remains in the cabinet as deputy prime minister and minister for natural resources.

Cleared: Of major offences in the Pelair report (May PIM page 12), former PNG prime minister **Mr Michael Somare** and former industry minister **Mr Karl Stack**.

However, the report commissioned by prime minister **Mr Paiaas Wingti**, found that Somare had acted unwisely in going to Port Moresby airport while customs officers were searching an aircraft for drugs. **Moved:** From PNG's finance ministry to the trade and industry portfolio, **Sir Julius Chan**.

Chan had offered to step down in order to prepare for this year's general election.

The new finance minister is former trade and industry minister **Mr Galeva Kwarara**.

In other changes, former defence force commander and forests minister **Mr Ted Diro** is foreign affairs minister, replacing **Mr Legu Vagi** who moved to transport.

Previously dismissed lands minister **Mr Paul Torato** has

returned to cabinet as minister for forests and former transport minister **Mr Neville Bourne** has been given the new Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources.

Guy Duwabane, was brought into the cabinet as agriculture minister and **Mr Tom Muliap** was re-instated as conservation minister after being cleared of a traffic charge. **Purchased:** Prasad's Hatchery Ltd of Nausori, Fiji by Crest Chicken Ltd for over F\$1 million.

Crest Group chairman **Mr Joe Campbell** said the acquisition was "a natural extension" to Crests's activities.

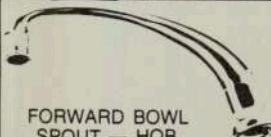
He said Prasad Hatchery was the biggest in Fiji, producing over two million chickens a year.

Crest Chickens is part of the Crest Group which is jointly owned by Campbell Holdings Ltd and the Wattie Group of New Zealand.

First: Papua New Guinean to be admitted as a solicitor in New South Wales, **Mrs Elizabeth Onapa Tamutal Hess**.

Mrs Hess was born at Lake Murray in Western Province and was educated at Daru and Mendi High Schools.

She graduated from Port Moresby Teachers College and spent two years studying law at the University of Papua New Guinea before going on to the University of New South Wales where she obtained a Bachelor of Laws degree.

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Deaths

Nimbe Bonga. Older brother of the former speaker of the PNG Parliament and Morobe MP, **Timothy Bonga** was murdered during a raid by gunmen on a Lae social club.

Mr Bonga, aged about 35, died instantly when he was shot in the back as he lay face down on the floor.

A man was later charged in connection with his death.

Fanene Faasiu Vaeau. One of Western Samoa's most dedicated and experienced public servants has died aged 66.

Member of the Council of Deputies, **Mataafa F. P. Patu** led a large number of government mourners who paid their last respects at his funeral.

The mourners, including Prime minister **Vaai Kolone** and deputy prime minister **Tupuola Efi** packed the Vailoa church of the Congregational Christian Church during the two-hour ceremony.

Letelemaana Siasia Vaeau told the mourners his father had very limited formal education but continued in night classes to earn his Public Service Certificate.

His first job, he recalled, was with the observatory at Mulinuu where he was taken on, not so much for his education as for his skill in rowing the canoe out to the monitoring post on the reef.

After spells with WSTEC and in private enterprise Fanene became a senior officer in the health department.

He later studied for an accountancy qualification and moved from the education department to become the most senior Samoan officer in the treasury as assistant to the expatriate financial secretary.

He retired in 1981 after 41 years of service and became a judge of the Land and Titles Court and when he died a few hours after presiding over a court hearing, Fanene was Senior Samoan Judge.

Rev Faapaia Tariu said he had been a deacon for 30 years and he and his wife **Asenati** had provided wine for communion every month during most of that time.

He is survived by his wife, 12 children (including adopted children) and 25 grandchildren.

Brother Peter Keaga. A founding member of the PNG

Teachers Association has died in Madang aged 50.

Br Peter, from Inge'fa village, West Mekeo, Bereina in Central Province collapsed a few hours before he was due to be sworn in for a fourth term as president of the association which he helped to establish in 1970.

The country's first national De La Salle teaching brother was attending the association's eighth congress at the Madang Resort Hotel when he collapsed. He rushed to hospital where he later died.

Br Ignatius Kennedy, the principal of De La Salle High School near Port Moresby where Br Peter was a staff member, said the hospital staff had been unable to save him.

Br Peter had suffered from diabetes for the past 17 years and his health had not been good in the weeks before his death, Br Ignatius said.

Br Peter had served the teachers association first as vice-president in 1976 and became the longest serving national president from 1977 until his retirement in 1981.

Peter Hamley, died suddenly in Sydney, aged 45.

He had a lot more to do with his life which was ended by a

massive heart attack as he was walking towards his boat.

Peter Hamley had become a pioneer in the design of scuba diving tours around the Pacific and had a group with him when the Jimmy Stevens "coconut rebellion" erupted in Santo.

However this experience drew him even closer to the island and over the years he took dozens of groups back there to show them the *President Coolidge* and other famous dive sites.

He also took on the management of conference tours. His Law Conferences in Port Vila and Tahiti and his Doctors Conference in Apia are still remembered.

He helped Polynesian Airlines set up their promotions in Australia with advice on scuba diving opportunities in Polynesia.

Each year at the Sydney Holiday and Travel Show he gave up his private time to assist at any of the South Pacific stands in need.

His Sydney funeral was attended by his family and friends as well as dozens who had worked with him over the years.

MARA'S CHALLENGE

continued from page 24

The economy is on the up, inflation is well under control, tax cuts were a feature of the last budget. The government's ace card — the lifting of the wage freeze — has already been played to great effect. It also stands on a solid record of peace and stability.

The two chinks the Alliance armour, however, are the stark realities of crime and unemployment.

The prime minister, in an effort to head off accusations that he was doing nothing about the rising crime rate, appointed former police commissioner, Mr Roy Henry, to carry out an enquiry.

Based on his findings, Ratu Mara in December appointed a high-powered task force to deal with the problem.

On the very next day, however, Mr Reddy denounced the move as an election gimmick

and asked why nothing had been done earlier.

Also on the minus side for the Alliance has been the auditor-general's latest annual report. It contained embarrassing revelations of mismanagement of government money. And the standard of health care is perceived to be declining.

Labour seeks to capitalise on just these issues — but it could have some difficulty in persuading enough voters that its alternatives are better.

Labour policies on land, nationalisation of the gold mining industry and transport have not been well received in the business community.

But in the final analysis, the result still depends on racial voting patterns. The question is: Will the coalition be able to attract enough Fijian support from the Alliance to turn the tables in half a dozen seats, or will the rebel candidates split the Indian vote, giving "safe" coalition seats to the Alliance?



Changed sides: Mrs Irene Jal Narayan.

Yachts

IAN MENZIES reports from Darwin:

TUCANA. Owned by Canadian Fred Lanauze and accompanied by UK first mate, Ruth Lambe, *Tucana* arrived in Darwin on the first leg of her circumnavigation.

Originally built by John Gilbert in Brisbane, *Tucana* was bought in Sydney by Fred who completely re-modelled the yacht before their departure.

A Joe Adams design, she is built of heavy 4.0mm steel and has a long, full keel.

No newcomer to the cruising lifestyle, Fred Lanauze previously cruised the Pacific for five years in his ferro-cement yacht *Mandolin Wind* which he sold in Port Moresby in 1979.



Tucana rides at anchor. Photo: Ian Menzies.

DANIELLE PATERSON reports from Port Moresby:

HEART OF GOLD. The Vagabond 47 *Heart of Gold* arrived in Port Moresby after an uneventful trip from Townsville.

The classical designed hull was built of fibreglass to a simulated timber finish complete with clipper bow and great cabin aft.

Designed by William Garden, *Heart of Gold* is rigged as a ketch and will no doubt be a familiar sight around Port Moresby harbour over the next 12 months.

Skipper-owner Bob Gamer bought the boat in Sydney and sailed her to PNG to see out the end of his current contract before setting out for Mauritius next year.

Bob, who may be remembered for his articles on the sinking and subsequent copy-book crew rescue from the sloop *Altair* together with the breaking-up at sea of the catamaran *Magnum*, intends to enter the 1988 Coral Sea Classic, Townsville-Cairns-Port Moresby-Samarai-Townsville race before his departure.

Under her original name of

Sable d'Or, *Heart of Gold* competed in two Rabaul-Kavieng races during her delivery trip from Taiwan to Sydney in 1981.

She is powered by an 85hp Lehman-Ford diesel and cruises at an average 5 knots.

Extravagantly fitted out *Heart of gold* boasts a eutetic refrigerator, Satnav, radar and a complete communications station of CB, SSB and VHF transceivers.

On her maiden voyage (under Bob's command) out of Australia, Bob was assisted by a crew of Rex Kersley (of *Altair* fame,) Glen Cartwright, Pia Berg, Mark Fortuneato, Jerome Vanderkreek (also ex *Altair* and *Magnum*), Craig de Wit and Lisbet Vierstom.

Although named *Sable d'Or* (Golden Sands) by her previous owner when constructed in Taiwan in 1980 by Blue Water Yachts, Bob decided to change the name to *Heart of Gold* as he felt this had some significance to his last two ill-fated voyages on *Altair* and *Magnum*.

The name is derived from the radio and TV series "Hitch-

hikers Guide to the Galaxy."

Bob has been known to write interesting features about the losses of those two boats for *Cruising Helmsman* and was considering more stories of boat building — or sinking as the case may be — but had second thoughts over the total cost of the articles.

Now in possession of his own beautiful craft, we trust that Bob's third and final cruise from Port Moresby next year will be happier than his last two.

MARY-LIN. The Australian-built steel, multi-chine ketch *Mary-Lin* arrived in Port Moresby with owner-skipper Des Wiar, his wife Marilyn, baby Nicole and crew Barry and Rhonda Whitfield.

The orange hulled, John Pugh designed vessel is 11.2 metres over all, has a beam of 3.66 metres and a draft of 1.7 metres.

Mary-Lin maintains contact with the rest of the world by means of a Codan SSB HF transceiver. Her galley is equipped with a gas stove and a Des Wiar-built refrigerator running on R12.



The Wiars' last port of call was Thursday Island for a two-week stay and *Mary-Lin* was due to depart for Honiara via Samarai, Lae, and Kieta.

She averages 5 knots while cruising and calls on a 30hp Yanmar diesel to assist when the wind is not to her liking.

LIBERTAD. Like many steel cruising boats out of Fremantle, the ketch *Libertad* which arrived from Thursday Island, is a Herman Boro design.

Rigged as a ketch, the white multi-chined yacht is fitted with bilge keels and sports a laid deck.

She is powered by a 58hp Ford diesel — which has given her skipper a few recent problems — and measures 14 metres over all with a beam of 3.96m and a draft of 1.2m.

Owners Kay and Alex

Whiteside have chosen a VHF transceiver together with a Kenwood HF receiver.

Libertad is fitted with a full size galley comprising an Indesit 12 volt refrigerator and a gas stove with oven.

Kay and Alex were waiting in Moresby for parts for the troublesome engine before cruising on to Guam and Honolulu and north to Japan.

Although *Libertad* has a potential hull speed of 9 knots, she cruises at an average 5 knots.

Long distance sailor Serge Testa has very little in the way of home comforts on his tiny craft that has taken him around the world.

Round the world sailor has no room to move

Young Frenchman, Serge Testa arrived in the Marquesas attempting to beat the record for the smallest craft to complete a circumnavigation.

Serge left Brisbane (he had been living in Australia for 15 years) in July, 1984 and reached the Marquesas by way of Darwin, Cocos Islands, South Africa, St Helena, Brazil, Venezuela, Panama, and the Galapagos Islands.

He built his tiny craft,

Acrohc Australis himself. The word derives from an Italian (Serge is part Italian) dialect term for "machine".

The aluminium mini-craft is 3.55 metres long with a beam of 1.5 metres.

Physical comforts in such a tiny boat are few, but Serge says he has had no problems so far.

He was bound for Tahiti before embarking on the final leg back to Brisbane.





shipping schedules

Should any shipping company wish to have its services — cargo and passenger — included in these listings they should contact PIM.

AUSTRALIA — FIJI

Sofrana-Unilines (Fiji Express Line) operates to Suva and Lautoka every three weeks from the main ports on the east coast of Australia and monthly to Lautoka from Melbourne and Sydney.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines, 432 Kent Street, Sydney (264-8944), Tlx AA 70090, Wiltrans Agency Pty. Ltd., 21st Floor, 60 Market St. Melbourne (614-4788), Tlx 30163 ACTA Pty. Ltd., Brisbane (221-3116), Elders-ANL Pty. Ltd., Port Adelaide, (47-5688), Newcastle, Sofrana Sydney (264-8944), Webster's-ANL, 58 Charles St. Launceston, Tasmania (320-555), Carpenters Shipping, Harbour Centre Building, 1st Floor, Thomson Street, Suva, Fiji (312-244), Tlx FJ2199.

AUSTRALIA — SAMOAS — TONGA

Warner Pacific Lines operates a regular cargo service from Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne to Nuku'alofa, Pago Pago, Apia and Vavau. Feeder service available from Apia to Cook, Christmas, Fanning and Washington Islands.

Details from Hetherington Westfarmers Shipping Agency, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney, (27-1671).

AUSTRALIA — NEW CALEDONIA

FIJI — SAMOAS — TONGA

Pacific Forum Line operates a fully containerised service (general, reefer and ro-ro) from Sydney to Noumea, Suva, Apia, Pago Pago, Nuku'alofa, Sydney, Cargo centralised from Adelaide, Melbourne, Brisbane.

Details from Pacific Forum Line P.O. Box 796 Auckland, Union Bulkships, 333 George Street, Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne, Union Co., Lautoka, Suva, Nuku'alofa, Pacific

Forum Line Apia, Polynesia Shipping Pago Pago.

AUSTRALIA — LORD HOWE IS. NORFOLK IS.

Compagnie des Chargeurs Caledoniens operates four-weekly cargo service Sydney-Lord Howe Island and Norfolk Island.

Details Hetherington Westfarmers Shipping Agency, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-1671).

AUSTRALIA — KIRIBATI

K. Asia Pacific operates a 5/6 weekly service from Melbourne and Sydney to Kiribati (Tarawa).

Details from K. Asia Pacific Pty. Ltd. Goldfields House, 1 Alfred Street, Circular Quay, Sydney (232-2277), Tlx 122-143.

KAP New Guinea Lines call Tarawa after PNG ports on a 35 day basis from Melbourne and Sydney/Brisbane.

Details from K. Asia Pacific Pty. Ltd., Goldfields House, 1 Alfred Street, Circular Quay, Sydney (232-2277), Tlx 122143.

AUSTRALIA — TUVALU

K-Asia Pacific operates Direct service every 2nd voyage to Tululu (Funafuti).

Details from K. Asia — Pacific Pty. Ltd., Goldfields House, 1 Alfred Street, Circular Quay Sydney (232-2277), Tlx 122143.

AUSTRALIA — NEW CALEDONIA AND/OR VANUATU

Sofrana-Unilines ships serve Noumea every three weeks from the main ports along the east Australian coast.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines, 432 Kent Street, Sydney (264-8944), Wiltrans-Agency Pty. Ltd., 21st Floor, 60 Market St., Melbourne (614-4788) Tlx 30163 ACTA Pty. Ltd., Brisbane (221-3116), Elders-ANL Pty. Ltd., Port Adelaide (47-5688), Newcastle, Sofrana Sydney, Webster's-ANL, 58 Charles St. Launceston, Tasmania (320-555), Compagnie des Chargeurs Caledoniens

operates a three-weekly containerised cargo service from Sydney to Noumea.

Details Hetherington Westfarmers shipping Agency, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-1671).

Compagnie Generale Maritime operates a monthly service from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane to Noumea, Port Vila and Santo, for containerised and break bulk cargo.

Details Compagnie Generale Maritime, 12 Castlereagh Street, Sydney (231-3700).

AUSTRALIA — NAURU — MARSHALL IS. — KIRIBATI

Nauru Pacific Line operates regular cargo service from Melbourne to Nauru, Majuro and Tarawa, passenger service to Nauru only.

Details: Nauru Pacific Line (Aust.) Pty. Ltd. Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, Melbourne (653-5709), Nedlloyd Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (2-0522).

AUSTRALIA — SOLOMON ISLANDS — VANUATU

Negal-PNG Line operates a monthly service details NEDLLOYD SWIRE P/L, 8 SPRING STREET, SYDNEY PHONE: 20522.

AUSTRALIA — NEW ZEALAND

The Australian National Line and the New Zealand line operate a 10-day container service (TRANZAS) between Sydney and Melbourne to Auckland, Wellington, Lyttleton and Port Chalmers.

The Transas service has been extended to cover Burnie and Fremantle on a direct call monthly basis linking to the main New Zealand ports.

Details from ANL Shipping Agency, 20 Bond Street, Sydney (225-7333) and ANL Shipping Agencies, "World Trade Centre," cnr. Flinders and Spencer Streets, Melbourne (611-2323) or New Zealand Line, Pastoral House, 96 Lambton Quay, Wellington (728-5000).

AUSTRALIA — NZ — FIJI — TONGA

VANUATU — NEW CALEDONIA SOLOMONS — NEW GUINEA

Silmar Cruises operates a year-round cruise program from Sydney to include the better-known ports in the above countries plus a number of unspoilt, and largely unknown, island paradises.

Details from Silmar Cruises, 39 Martin Place, Sydney (239-9000); NSW, reservations and inquiries (008 42-2277); Rest of Australia, reservations and inquiries (008 22-2277).

AUSTRALIA — NZ — FIJI — TONGA

VANUATU — NEW CALEDONIA SOLOMONS — SAMOAS — TAHITI

P&O Liners call at Auckland, Bay of Islands, Honiara, Lautoka, Noumea, Nuku'alofa, Pago Pago, Papeete, Port Moresby, Santo, Savu-savu, Suva, Vavau and Vila on cruises from Australia.

Details from P&O Booking centre, World Travel Headquarters Pty. Ltd, 33 Bligh Street, Sydney (237-0333).

AUSTRALIA — PNG — SOLOMONS — VANUATU — NZ

Pacific Forum Line operates a containerised and ro-ro from Brisbane to Port Moresby, Lae, Honiara, Port Vila, Lyttleton, Napier and Auckland.

Details from Union Bulkships, Brisbane Steamships Shipping, Port Moresby and Lae; Sullivan's Ltd. Honiara, Vila Agents, Port Vila; SCONZ Christchurch, Napier and Auckland.

AUCKLAND — MICRONESIA

Nauru Pacific Line operates a regular container service from Melbourne to Ponape, Truk, Guam and Saipan.

Details: N.P.L. (Australia) Pty. Ltd., Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, Melbourne (653-5709); Nedlloyd Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (2-0522).

AUSTRALIA — NEW CALEDONIA

Sofrana Unilines operates a 3-4 weekly service from East Coast mainports to Noumea.

Details from Sofrana Unilines 432 Kent Street, Sydney, (Tel. 264-8944), Tlx AA 70090.

AUSTRALIA — TUVALU

K. Asia Pacific operates a three monthly service from Sydney and Melbourne to

Tuvalu (Funafuti). Subject to Inducement.

Details from K. Asia Pacific Pty. Ltd. Goldfields House, 1 Alfred Street, Circular Quay, Sydney (232-2277), Tlx 122143.

Warner Pacific Line operates a six week containerised/breakbulk service to Funafuti from Melbourne/Brisbane/Sydney and Auckland.

Details from Hetherington Westfarmers Shipping Agency, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-1671); Mackay Shipping Ltd. Downtown House, Queen Street, Auckland (30-299).

AUSTRALIA — PNG

KAP New Guinea Lines cargo vessels call at Melbourne, Sydney, Port Moresby, Lae, Madang, Wewak, Manus, Kimbe, Rabaul, Popondetta.

Details from K. Asia Pacific Pty. Ltd. Goldfields House, 1 Alfred Street, Circular Quay, Sydney (232-2277), Tlx 122143. Dalgely Shipping, World Trade Centre, Melbourne (618-6700).

AUSTRALIA — PNG — SOLOMONS

Sofrana Unilines (Aust. P/L operates a 3-4 weekly cargo service to PNG, ex-main ports on the east coast of Australia.

Details from Sofrana Unilines, 432 Kent Street, Sydney (264-8944), Tlx AA 70090.

AUSTRALIA — PNG — SOLOMONS VANUATU

A consortium of NGAL/PNGL and CON-PAC/NEL have four vessels operating a joint service from east coast Australian ports to Port Moresby, Lae, Alotau, Madang, Wewak, Rabaul, Kavieng-Kimbe, Kieta, Honiara, Vila, Santo.

Details from Burns Philp & Co. Ltd., P.O. Box R124, Royal Exchange, Sydney, 2000 (2-0547); Nedlloyd Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (2-0522); New Guinea Express Lines, 37 Pitt Street, Sydney (241-3991); Vila Agents, PO Box 27, Port-Vila (2456), Tlx NH1011.

New Guinea Express Lines operates a weekly container service from Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane to Port Moresby, Lae, Alotau, Kimbe, Rabaul, Kieta, Honiara, Kavieng, Madang, Wewak, Santo, Vila.

Details from New Guinea Express Lines, P.O. Box R73, Royal Exchange, Sydney (241-3991); New Guinea Express Lines, 127 Creek Street, Brisbane (221-9333); New Guinea Express Lines, 327 Collins Street, Melbourne (602-5544); Niugini Express Lines, Port Moresby (21-4572); Lae (42-1536); Niugini Island Cargo Services Pty. Ltd., Rabaul (922-467); Bougainville Agencies Pty. Ltd., Kieta (956-089); Robert Laurie (PNG) P/L, Madang (82-2157); Garamut Enterprises P/L, Wewak (86-2106); Burns Philp (PNG) Ltd., Kavieng (94-2133); Alotau Stevedoring & Transport Alotau (61-1318); Ngatia Wholesalers Pty. Ltd. Kimba (93-5102); and Tradco Shipping, Mandana Avenue, Honiara (22588); Vila Agents Ltd., P.O. Box 971, Vila, Vanuatu (2490); John Lum & Associates, P.O. Box 65, Santo, Vanuatu (329).

AUSTRALIA — TAHITI

Compagnie Generale Maritime operates a monthly service from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane to Papeete, for containerised and break bulk cargo.

Details Compagnie Generale Maritime, 12 Castlereagh Street, Sydney (231-3700).

Sofrana Unilines (Aust.) P/L operates a 3/4 weekly cargo service to Papeete ex main ports on the east coast of Australia.

Details from Sofrana Unilines, 432 Kent Street, Sydney (264-8944), Tlx AA 70090.

SINGAPORE — HONGKONG — FIJI ISLANDS PORTS

Kyowa Shipping Co. Ltd., operates a monthly containerised and break bulk cargo service from Singapore, Hongkong to Lautoka, Suva and then to island ports.

Details from Carpenters Shipping, Harbour Centre Building, 1st Floor, Thomson Street, Suva (312-244), Tlx FJ2199.

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New Zealand Unit Express (NZUE), now operates a monthly service accepting containerised and break bulk cargo from Manila, Keelung, Kaohsiung and Hongkong to Lautoka, Suva and thence to New Zealand ports.

Details from Carpenters Shipping, Harbour Centre Building, 1st Floor, Thomson Street, Suva (312-244); Tlx FJ2199; Burns Philp, Suva (311-777); New Zealand Unit Express, Maritime Building, 2-10 Customhouse Quay, P.O. Box 890, Wellington. Cables: ENZUE-MAN WELLINGTON. Telex: NZ31340. NEDLNZ. Telephone: 727-865 or Nedlloyd Swire Pty. Ltd., Sydney (20-522).

Nedlloyd operates bi-weekly cargo service with four ships from Surabaya, Jakarta, Bangkok, Port Kelang and Singapore to Suva, Lautoka and NZ ports.

Details from Nedlloyd (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., 8 Spring St., Sydney (27-3801), Burns Philp (SS) Co. Ltd., Suva and Lautoka.

FAR EAST — MID-S. PACIFIC

China Navigation's New Guinea Pacific Line operates a regular container service from Hongkong, Taiwan, Manila, Port Kelang and Singapore to Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul and Honiara monthly and to Wewak, Madang and Kieta every three months. Cargo from the same Far Eastern ports to the South Pacific ports of Noumea, Santo, Vila, Papeete, Pago Pago, Apia, Raratonga and Tarawa will be shipped via Japan on the monthly Bali Hai service.

Details from Steamships Shipping, P.O. Box 634, Port Moresby (22-0289).

Kyowa Shipping Ltd. operates monthly services from Japan to Guam, Saipan, Solomons, New Caledonia, Fiji, Western and American Samoa, Tahiti, Cook Is. Tonga and Vanuatu.

Details: Heterington Wesfarmers Shipping Agency, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-1671); Carpenters Shipping, Suva (312-244). Tlx FJ2199.

GUAM — NORTHERN MARIANAS

Saipan Shipping Co. Inc. operates a weekly service via barge carrying containers and conventional cargo between Guam and Saipan and Tinian.

Details from Saipan Shipping Co. Inc., P.O. Box 8, Saipan, CM 96950 (Tel. 9707). Tlx 783619; Guam agents Maritime Agencies of the Pacific Ltd.

**HAWAII — TAHITI — SAMOAS —
TONGA — KIRIBATI — FIJI —
SOLOMONS — PNG**

State Shipping Associates operates a monthly service originating in Honolulu and destined for Pago Pago, Papeete, Apia, Nukualofa, Suva, Vila and Port Moresby.

Details from Star Shipping Assoc., P.O. Box 25988, Honolulu, Hawaii 96825. Ph. (808) 39-4256; Polynesia Shipping Services in Pago Pago and Burns Philp Agency in Apia, Nukualofa, Suva and Port Moresby.

JAPAN — FIJI — ISLAND PORTS

Kyowa Shipping Co. Ltd. operates a monthly containerised service from main ports of Japan to Suva and Lautoka and thence to island ports.

Details from Carpenters Shipping, Harbour Centre Building, 1st floor, Thomson St., Suva (312-244). Tlx FJ2199.

Bali Hai service operates a monthly containerised service from main ports of Japan to Lautoka and Suva and thence to island ports.

Details from Carpenters Shipping, Harbour Centre Building, 1st floor, Thomson St., Suva (312-244). Tlx FJ2199, and Burns Philp, Suva (311-777).

JAPAN — MICRONESIA

The NYK Shipping Line operates a monthly cargo service from Japan to Micronesia, calling at Yokohama, Nagoya, Kobe, Guam, Saipan, Truk, Ponape and Majuro, returning via Yokohama, Nagoya and Kobe.

Details from Burns Philp & Co. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (2-0547).

Saipan Shipping Co. Inc. operates a monthly service from Japan to Saipan, Guam, Truk, Ponape, Majuro (Kosrae and Ebeye on inducement).

Details from Saipan Shipping Co. Inc., P.O. Box 8, Saipan, CM 96950 (Tel. 9707). Tlx 783619. Japan agents Kyowa Shipping Com-

pany Ltd.; Guam Agents Maritime Agencies of the Pacific Ltd.

JAPAN — PNG

Mitsui O.S.K. Lines operates a monthly service from main ports Japan, Wewak, Lae, Rabaul, Kieta, Port Moresby.

Details from Robert Laurie Carpenters Pty. Ltd., P.O. Box 1032, Lae/PNG (Tel. 42-3642, 42-3811).

**NEW CALEDONIA — FIJI — WEST
COAST NORTH AMERICA**

PAD Line operates an approx. 3-weekly ro-ro service from Noumea and Suva to Honolulu and West Coast USA and Canadian ports.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines SA, BP 1602, Noumea (27-51-91). Tlx NM048; Carpenters Shipping, Harbour Centre Building, 1st Floor, Thomson St., Suva (312-244). Tlx FJ2199.

PNG — INTER — MAINPORT

Papua New Guinea Line offers scheduled 10-20 day coastal liner services linking all PNG major ports with containerisation, reefer, heavy lift and transshipment facilities.

Details from PNG Line, Box 543, Port Moresby, PNG (21-1174). Tlx 22269.

PNG — UK/CONTINENT

The Bank Line & Columbus Line operate a regular joint service from Port Moresby, Oro Bay, Kieta, Rabaul, Kimbe, Madang and Lae to Hull, Hamburg, Rotterdam, Antwerp and Le Havre.

Details from The Bank Line (A/asia) Pty. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2041); Tlx AA24063; Columbus Line, Lae (423466), Tlx NE 44171; Tradco Shipping Ltd., Honiara (22588). Tlx 66313.

SOLOMONS — UK/CONTINENT

The Bank Line & Columbus Line operate a regular joint cargo service from Honiara to Hull, Hamburg, Rotterdam, Antwerp and Le Havre.

Details from The Bank Line (A/asia) Pty. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2041); Tlx AA24063; Columbus Line, Lae (423466), Tlx NE 44171; Tradco Shipping Ltd., Honiara (22588). Tlx 66313.

**NEW ZEALAND — AUSTRALIA — PAPUA
NEW GUINEA — SOLOMON ISLANDS —
VANUATU**

Pacific Forum Line operates a containerised and ro-ro service from Lyttelton, Napier and Auckland to Brisbane, Port Moresby, Lae, Honiara and Port Vila.

Details from SCONZ Christchurch, Napier and Auckland, Union Bulkships, Brisbane; Steamships Shipping, Port Moresby and Lae; Sullivans Ltd., Honiara; Vila Agents, Port Vila.

NZ — COOK IS. — NIUE — TAHITI

New Zealand Line operates cargo services based on pallets and similar units from Auckland to Niue, Cook Islands and Tahiti.

Details from the NZ Shipping Agencies International Ltd., P.O. Box 3420, Auckland (797210); Waterfront Commission, P.O. Box 61, Raratonga; Cook Islands; Shipping Office, Govt. of Niue, P.O. Box 107, Niue Island; Compagnie Maritime Polynésienne, P.O. Box 36, Papeete, Tahiti.

NZ — FIJI

Reef operates a regular 18-day service from Auckland to Suva and Lautoka. Also passenger accommodation.

Details from Reef Shipping Agencies, PO Box 3382, Auckland, NZ (77-1221-3). Tlx 60633; MV Fijian Shipping Agencies Ltd. Private Bag, Suva, Fiji (31-1056).

Pacific Line with one ship operates two weekly ro-ro cargo service New Zealand, Lautoka, Suva. No passengers.

Details Sofrana Unilines, 18 Customs Street, Auckland (773-279) PO Box 3614, Tlx NZ2313, Carpenters Shipping, 100 Thomson Street, Suva (312-244). Tlx FJ2199.

NZ — FIJI — NORTH AMERICA (WC)

Blue Star Line Ltd. Pacific Coast container services. Only direct service to and from New Zealand. Blue Star vessels call at Suva and Honolulu on NZ-U.S. West Coast voyages.

Details from Blueport ACT (NZ) Ltd., PO Box 192, Wellington (739-029). Burns Philp (SS) Co. Ltd., GPO Box 355, Suva, Fiji (311-777). Tlx FJ2168 Burship.

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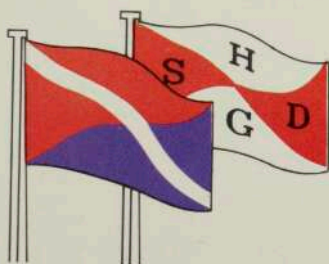
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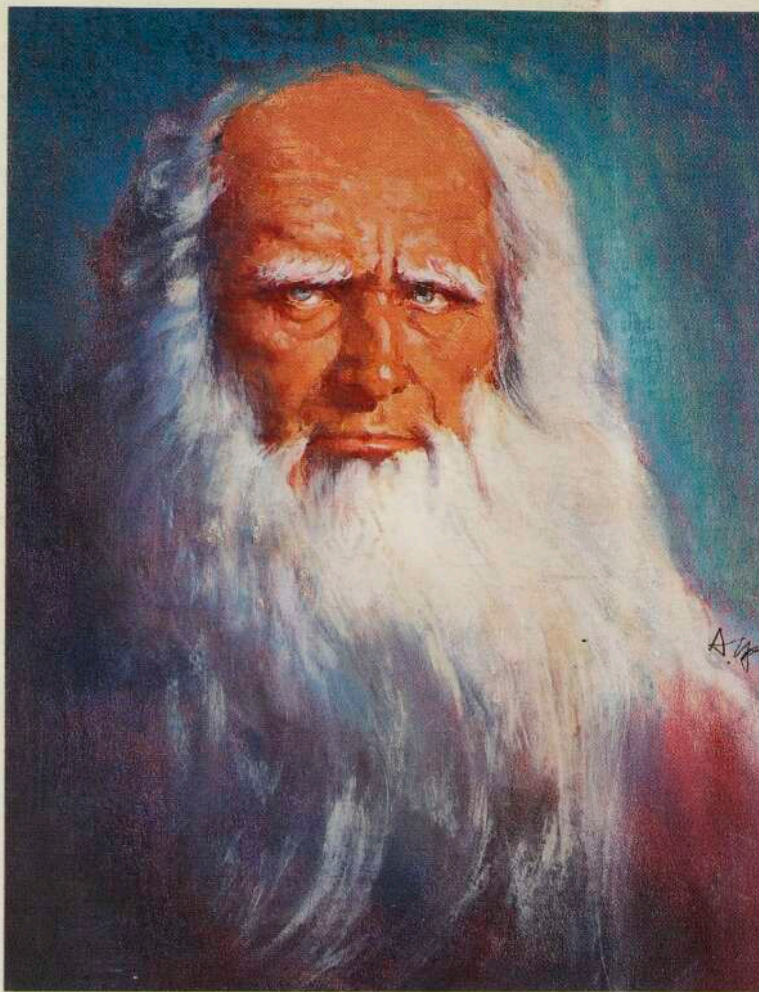
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